

# STARS AND STRIPES®

**Rams score 17  
in final 5:34, top  
Seahawks in OT**

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St. Louis Rams wide receiver Shaun McDonald



**Poll shows Karzai  
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St. Louis Cardinals' Albert Pujols

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TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2004

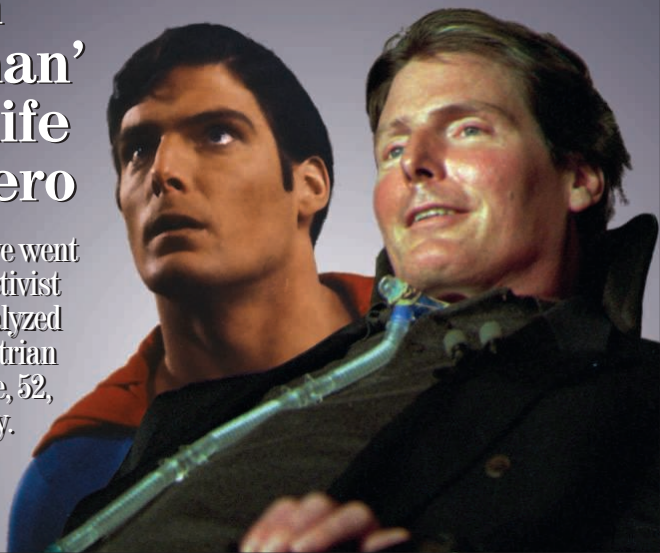
# Sadr City militiamen turning in weapons

Web site reports beheadings of two more hostages in Iraq Page 3

## From 'Superman' to real-life super hero

Christopher Reeve went from actor to activist after being paralyzed in a 1995 equestrian accident. Reeve, 52, died Sunday.

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AP photos

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY HOUSTON RUCK/Stars and Stripes

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## News Tracker ... What's new with old news



**Mount St. Helens activity:** The Stauffer family of Rainier, Ore., stop by the roadside at Hoffstadt Bluffs to view the steam venting from the crater of Mount St. Helens near Toutle, Wash., on Sunday. The volcano gave off more steam Monday morning, with a small cloud drifting up from the crater as the sun started to rise. Seismic activity remained relatively low at the mountain, said Jeff Wynn, chief scientist for volcano hazards at the U.S. Geological Survey's Cascades Volcano Observatory. Scientists believe the steam was created when part of the swelling on the south side of the dome broke off, taking some of the glacier with it.

### States

**Book on Moxley murder:** A new book on convicted killer Michael Skakel says the Kennedy cousin described being covered in blood the night of his neighbor's murder.

Skakel, who was convicted in 2002 of Martha Moxley's 1975 murder, allegedly made the incriminating comment to a counselor at Elan School, a reform school in Poland, Maine, where he was sent in the late 1970s. Skakel, like his victim, was 15 at the time of the killing.

In the book "Conviction: Solving the Moxley Murder" by Leonard Levitt, the unnamed counselor describes a conversation he had with Skakel's father, priest and attorney after Skakel allegedly told him about being covered in blood.

Skakel later denied making the remark to the counselor, the book says.

**Flu vaccine shortage:** The crisis in the flu vaccine supply in the United States has led to renewed calls to modernize a half-century-old manufacturing system that relies on millions of chicken eggs and a lot of educated guesswork.

Because it takes at least six months to produce the annual flu vaccine, no manufacturer can replace the 46 million shots Chiron Corp. won't ship this season.

Citing manufacturing problems, British regulators last week shut down Chiron's factory in England where roughly 46 million doses destined for the United States had been made.

That leaves the United States with only 58 million shots for the more than 100 million people most vulnerable to the flu, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

### Business

**Enron trial:** Former Enron Corp. finance chief Andrew Fastow and the man who replaced him when he was forced out are among roughly 50 potential witnesses for the defense phase of the fraud and conspiracy trial regarding the energy company's alleged sham sale of several billions at the brokerage Merrill Lynch & Co. at the end of 1999.

The defense phase of the trial began Monday after the judge decided it was unnecessary to present entire transcripts of a defendant's grand jury testimony to jurors. Prosecutors rested their case last week, pending the judge's decision.

The trial entered its fourth week on Monday.

### World

**N. Korea talks:** North Korea on Monday blamed the United States for the stalemate in talks on its nuclear weapons programs, and warned it would use a "war deterrent force" if Washington brought the nuclear dispute before the U.N. Security Council.

The United States, North and South Korea, Japan, China and Russia have met for three rounds of talks aimed at getting the North to give up its nuclear ambitions, but little progress has been made. A fourth round slated for September never took place because the North refused to attend.

"If the U.S. applies more sanctions to the DPRK by putting the U.N. in motion, the DPRK will promptly and resolutely react to it with self-defensive war deterrent force," the North's official news agency, KCNA, said.

**West Bank proposal:** Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said Monday he will present his contentious plan to withdraw from the Gaza Strip and parts of the West Bank to parliament for approval on Oct. 25.

In a speech opening parliament's winter session, Sharon laid out a timetable for legislative action on the plan, which many members of his own Likud party strongly oppose.

If the withdrawal timetable is approved, Sharon will introduce a law into the Knesset in the first week of November to compensate the thousands of settlers who will be displaced in the evacuation, he said.

**Stolen Renaissance figurine:** The theft

from a Vienna museum of a Renaissance figurine is a mystery more than a year after it was stolen, despite a new book by a British art detective, police said Monday.

Wilfried Seipel, who heads the city of Vienna's criminal investigations division, told the Austria Press Agency that the book by Charles Hill uncovered nothing that investigators had already known about the case.

Police have worked to track down the 16th century, gold-plated "saliera," or salt cellar sculpture, by Florentine master Benvenuto Cellini since it was stolen from a showcase at Vienna's Art History Museum in May 2003.

**Helicopter crash:** Forensic experts on Monday examined remains recovered from a Sept. 11 helicopter crash in Greece that killed the head of the Orthodox church in Africa and 16 other people, authorities said.

The body parts were found in wreckage from the army CH-47 Chinook which was raised nearly 3,000 feet from the seabed Sunday with the help of a submersible which attached balloons to parts of the helicopter.

Patriarch Petros VII of Alexandria was killed along with several members of the church's senior clergy in Africa when the helicopter crashed into the Aegean Sea while traveling to the monastic enclave of Mount Athos in northern Greece.

**Jailed Saudi-American freed:** Yaser Esam Hamdi, a Saudi-American citizen who was captured on the Afghanistan battlefield and held without charges for nearly three years, has been freed and returned Monday to Saudi Arabia.

Interior Ministry spokesman Brig. Gen. Mansour al-Turki confirmed Hamdi arrived in Riyadh about noon Monday.

"His parents were there to receive him. The minute he arrived, he said he had given up his U.S. nationality," al-Turki said. The deal with the U.S. government, freeing Hamdi had required he give up his American citizenship and go to Saudi Arabia.

It wasn't immediately clear where Hamdi was taken after arriving, but al-Turki stressed he was with his family. Relatives were not answering their mobile telephone.

Stories and photos from The Associated Press



Sharon

# Shiite militia fighters start turning in weapons

By SINAN SALAHEDDIN

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Followers of radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr trickled in to police stations in Baghdad's Sadr City district to hand in weapons Monday in a first step toward bringing peace to the Shiite militia stronghold after weeks of fighting with U.S. forces.

In western Mosul, meanwhile, a suicide car bomb exploded as an American military convoy was passing by, killing at least two Iraqis and wounding 18, witnesses said. Initial reports indicated there also were military casualties, a U.S. statement said, without providing figures.

Also Monday, an Islamist Web site showed the beheading of two hostages — one a Kurdish translator and the other a Turkish contractor wearing a badge of the Titan security company.

A statement said the two were captured in Ramadi, 70 miles west of Baghdad by the Ansar al-Sunnah Army.

An Arabic language television station also broadcast a video Monday showing three hooded gunmen threatening to behead another Iraqi hostage within three days unless the Americans release all Iraqi prisoners and all Turks leave Iraq.

One of the gunmen identified the kidnappers as members of Tawhid and Jihad, Iraq's most feared terrorist group that has been responsible for beheading several foreign hostages in Iraq.

However, the tape did not feature the group's banner, which has always appeared in Tawhid and Jihad video statements.



Soldiers from the Iraqi National Guard show off mortars after militia members delivered sacks of the weapons to Iraqi security forces in the Sadr City neighborhood of Baghdad on Monday.

In preparation for the turnover of weapons, checkpoints were set up along the roads to three Sadr City police stations, and Iraqi National Guard members took up positions on surrounding rooftops.

At al-Nasr station, police Maj. Kadhim Salman said fighters had turned in machine guns, TNT paste, land mines and other explosives.

Many of the weapons appeared old and rusted. Nonetheless, the government was hopeful the process would spell the end of

the Shiite revolt and enable the Americans and their Iraqi allies to shift attention to the more extensive Sunni Muslim insurgency.

"Until that process is completed and until [the] Iraqi government itself is satisfied, it is way too early to characterize it as a success," Lt. Col. James Hutton of the U.S. 1st Cavalry Division said.

Fighters are supposed to be compensated for the weapons, but Salman said those responsible for the payments hadn't turned up yet. Instead, receipts were issued.

The rates ranged from \$5 for a hand grenade to \$1,000 for a heavy-caliber machine gun, police said.

Malik Jomaa walked up to the station with a white bag containing two grenade launchers slung over his shoulder.

"God willing, there will be no more fighting and Sadr City will live in peace," the 20-year-old fighter said.

Outside a police station, a pickup truck offloaded some 20 grenade launchers and dozens of mortar rounds, Associate Press Television News footage showed. Guns and explosives were spread out on the ground. U.S. soldiers supervised the process from a distance.

Al-Sadr's Mahdi Army agreed over the weekend to hand in its medium and heavy weapons in Sadr City. The arms transfer is supposed to last five days, after which Iraqi police and National Guardsmen will assume security responsibility for the slum, home to more than 2 million people.

In return, the government has promised to start releasing detained al-Sadr followers, provided they did not commit crimes. It has also suspended raids in the northeastern Baghdad district.

Vice President Ibrahim al-Jaafari welcomed the handover as a "good and positive initiative," telling APTN that he hoped other insurgent enclaves would follow Sadr City's example.

Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's interim administration has committed more than \$500 million to rebuilding Sadr City, scene of heavy clashes between U.S. troops and al-Sadr's militia.

## Source: White House to delay major Iraqi assaults

By MARK MAZZETTI

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration plans to delay major assaults on rebel-held cities in Iraq until after U.S. elections in November, say administration officials, mindful that large-scale military offensives could affect the U.S. presidential race.

Although American commanders in Iraq have been buoyed by recent successes in insurgent-held towns such as Samarra and Fallujah, administration and Pentagon officials say they will not try to retake cities such as Fallujah and Ramadi — where insurgents' grip is strongest and U.S. military casualties could be the greatest — until after Americans vote in

what is likely to be a close election.

"When this election's over, you'll see us move very vigorously," said one senior administration official involved in strategic planning, speaking on condition of anonymity.

"Once you're past the election, it changes the political ramifications" of a large-scale offensive, the official said.

"We're not on hold right now. We're just as aggressive."

Any delay in pacifying Iraq's most troublesome cities, however, could alter the dynamics of a different election — the one in January, when Iraqis are to elect members of a national assembly.

With only four months remaining, U.S. commanders are scrambling to enable voting in many

Iraqi cities as possible to shore up the poll's legitimacy.

U.S. officials point out that there have been no direct orders to commanders in the field to pause operations in the weeks before the Nov. 2 election.

Top administration officials in Washington are simply reluctant to sign off on a major offensive in Iraq at the height of the political season.

## U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Friday, 1,064 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 809 died as a result of hostile action and 255 died of non-hostile causes. The figures include three military civilians. There has been no update over the weekend.

The British military has reported 67 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, eight; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; the Netherlands, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 926 U.S. military members have died — 700 as a result of hostile action and 226 of non-hostile causes, according to the military's numbers as of Friday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A U.S. soldier died Sunday from injuries suffered from a bomb attack in east Baghdad.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Army Sgt. Andrew W. Brown, 22, Pleasant Mount, Pa., died Friday in Baghdad, of injuries sustained on Oct. 1 when his patrol vehicle was hit by an explosive; assigned to 2nd Battalion, 509th Infantry, Fort Polk, La.

■ Marine Pfc. Andrew Halverson, 19, Grant, Wis., died Saturday in gunfire in Iraq's Anbar province; assigned to 2nd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force; Camp Pendleton.

■ Army Staff Sgt. Michael S. Voss, 35, Aberdeen, N.C., died Friday near Tikrit, Iraq, when his convoy vehicle was hit by an explosive and small arms fire; assigned to the National Guard 1st Battalion, 120th Infantry Regiment, Wilmington, N.C.

## Rumsfeld praises Afghan vote

Secretary of Defense says Iraq will follow

By The Associated Press

SKOPJE, Macedonia — Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld on Monday praised the Afghan presidential elections as an "enormous accomplishment" and voiced his hope that the January vote in Iraq will be an equal success.

"The elections in Afghanistan have been an enormous accomplishment," Rumsfeld said in Macedonia during his brief stopover from Iraq to Romania.

Despite a boycott by some opposition candidates, the Afghan election observers and U.S.-backed interim President Hamid Karzai have sought to put the best face possible on Saturday's vote, not-

*"It is not an easy task to turn the dictatorship, as in the case of Afghanistan, and it won't be an easy task in Iraq. But Afghanistan is making it. Iraq is making a terrific effort of making it as well."*

Secretary of Defense

Donald Rumsfeld

"We see that in Afghanistan, and let there be no doubt, we will see that in Iraq," Rumsfeld said.

He said that despite the deteriorating security situation in Iraq and ongoing insurgent attacks, the elections scheduled for January "will happen."

"It is not an easy task to turn the dictatorship, as in the case of Afghanistan, and it won't be an easy task in Iraq," Rumsfeld said. "But Afghanistan is making it. Iraq is making a terrific effort of making it as well."

See related story Page 7



Soldiers from the Iraqi National Guard prepare to patrol the streets of Baghdad on Saturday. American forces have been training the new troops to provide more public security, yet most of the Iraqi soldiers cover their faces for fear of insurgent reprisals.

## Iraqi recruits faced with rising dangers

BY MARIAM FAM

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — With no work and five children to feed, Salah Abbas ignored his family's pleas not to join the Iraqi National Guard, a job where the paycheck comes with a deadly risk.

But a suicide bomber who blew himself up last month near where Abbas and others were lining up to apply for the force changed his mind.

"How can anyone volunteer after this disaster?" he said from his hospital bed after the blast left him with shrapnel wounds to the back and legs. "I won't join. I'd rather live on bare bread."

Insurgents are increasingly targeting men such as Abbas, along with those who have already entered the ranks of security forces, and appear to have raised the level of planning and sophistication of operations to work around security measures.

A wave of bombings, mortar attacks and shootings of police and potential recruits — viewed by guerrillas as collaborators with U.S.-led forces — have left areas around many police stations and recruiting centers littered with mangled body parts and teeming with dazed men in bloodied uniforms.

On Sunday, a suicide attacker detonated a minibus packed with explosives near an east Baghdad police academy, killing at least three of the school's students and a female officer.

Interior Ministry officials say there are no comprehensive figures for security forces killed in attacks across the country.

Maj. Gen. Samir al-Waeli, an Interior Ministry official, said nearly 1,000 policemen have been killed since April 2003. But the figure doesn't include volunteers killed in attacks on recruitment centers or members of other security services, such as the national guard and army.

Baghdad police commander, Maj. Gen. Abdul Razzaq Abdul Wahhab, told reporters police would review security procedures and work on erecting more roadblocks and checking the identity of drivers approaching possible targets.

Officials say they are also trying to limit the number of assembled applicants by asking them not to show up on the same day.

Some of the survivors of the Sept. 22 bombing that wounded Abbas said those waiting to join the national guard were asked to spread out in a nearby street rather than line up outside the recruiting center and present attackers with an easy target.

But the militants knew exactly where to strike.

Instead of exploding the car at the center, the driver blew it up on the street where the recruits were photocopying documents, eating ice-cream and chatting with each other. At least six people were killed and another 54 wounded.

"They are better organized than before," said Maj. Gen. Anwar Mohammed Amin of the Iraqi National Guard in the northern city of Kirkuk of the insurgents. "They wait for a chance, stake out targets and get thorough information."

Despite the carnage, Iraqi officials say the attacks have failed to demoralize troops or drive away volunteers, with applications continuing to pour in. Some policemen say the attacks only increase their determination to serve their country and fight the militants.

Interim Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi said he visited a police recruitment center one day after at least 40 people were killed in an attack there.

"I found hundreds of people coming to volunteer to the police and to the army," he said in a recent news conference with President Bush. "They are all upbeat. They are resolved to beat terrorism and to defeat the insurgents."

# Targeting illegal traders

BY JULIANA GITTLER

Stars and Stripes

CONVOY SUPPORT CENTER SCANIA, Iraq — The big smiles don't fool soldiers on perimeter security outside Camp Scania, a major convoy stopping point 150 miles south of Baghdad.

The soldiers say the smiling Iraqi children lingering outside the concertina wire separating them from convoy trucks might have hashish, whiskey or the prescription drug Viagra stashed in the shrubs as they wait for a possible sale.

"Whenever there are trucks along the wire, they'll be working," said Staff Sgt. Jeffrey King, part of the perimeter security force. "You can have kids from, like, 4 years to 30-year-old men up on the wire."

The sales and any contact with the makeshift wire fence by someone outside it are prohibited, and security details take the problem seriously. They want to make sure the trickle of vendors does not become a flood of traders that could include potential terrorists.

As a result, at least every few

days someone is caught selling to convoy drivers on the base side of the fence, King said.

"We pop them all the time," said Lt. Col. James B. Sayers, commander of the 1st Battalion, 185th Armored Regiment of the California National Guard and the acting camp commander.

While any contact along the fence line is a concern, security officials believe the risk to U.S. forces, living a distance from the convoy waiting areas, is minimal. Most of the traders are poor locals from nearby homes.

"It's common all over Iraq," Sayers said. "These are petty criminals. They're not real bad people, [they're] just trying to make a buck."

Though few in number, they are persistent. "You can arrest one and come back five minutes later and there will be more out there," King said.

Traders are turned over to the Iraqi police and then imprisoned briefly and fined. Their goods are taken away.

"You'd think that would be an incentive not to do this stuff," Sayers adds.

To make sure there's no ambi-

guity, large red signs in English and Arabic warn: "No Trading with Locals" at the base gates and the same message is spray-painted on concrete barriers.

Security is the key issue, but, Sayers adds, having drunk or stoned convoy drivers endangers soldiers who accompany them on the road.

Truck drivers caught buying goods have also been arrested and are turned over to their companies, who generally dismiss them, Sayers said.

The traders have an interesting array of goods, soldiers say, from the outright illegal, such as hashish, to the surprising, such as Viagra.

The most common is cigarettes, followed by anything from chickens to decorative knives.

Many of the traders are familiar faces. Soldiers know one so well he waves when he sees them in town and has started providing some intelligence to police.

Patrols have also arrested suppliers who provide the goods to the traders. Soldiers say a recent bust netted several trucks of Viagra.

E-mail: Juliana Gittler at: gittlerj@patriotpress.com

## Sweet visit from U.S. soldiers



Above: Children in the remote village of Thar Thar, Iraq, gather around U.S. soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division's Task Force 1-26 to receive free gifts of toys and candy. The soldiers, from Forward Operating Base Brassfield-Mora, stopped at the village, about a mile from a hydroelectric dam included in their regular patrol. Right: Kids of various ages flocked to the soldiers, yelling loudly in broken English and Arabic while trying to shake their hands, as adults watched from a distance. Soon, the soldiers began to hand out toys to all the children, which prompted more kids to emerge from their former hiding area around the village.

PHOTOS BY LEE HARSHMAN  
Courtesy of the U.S. Army



# Deserters find mixed reception in Canada

By DOUG STRUCK  
The Washington Post

TORONTO — Jeremy Hinzman enlisted in the Army in Boston, did a tour in Afghanistan and prepared for elite Ranger school. Then came orders to go to Iraq. He neatly piled his Army gear in his living room at Fort Bragg, N.C., and fled to Canada with his wife and baby.

"No matter how much I wanted to, I could not convince myself that killing someone was ever right," Hinzman, 25, said in an interview here.

Spc. Hinzman is a deserter, one of at least four who have followed the path of Vietnam War resisters a generation ago to seek refuge in Canada. Here, they have been embraced by many from that time — former peaceniks who are now pillars of the community.

The government is less welcoming. Despite Canada's opposition to the Iraq war, the government also is opposing the deserters' refugee applications, saying the soldiers are not persecuted. It is resisting the argument that the Iraq war is illegal.

"Canada is worried if they grant us refugee status, others would come up," said Hinzman.

The deserters in Canada provoke anger in the United States among people who argue they are shirking a duty to which they willingly agreed. "There's no draft. These people volunteered for the military," said Jerry Newberry, a spokesman of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in St. Louis. "These people want to have their cake and eat it, too."

Hinzman, a slender, studious young man, accepts the criticisms. He replies that his objections to the military evolved after he enlisted.

Well before he was ordered to Iraq, he applied for conscientious objector duty.

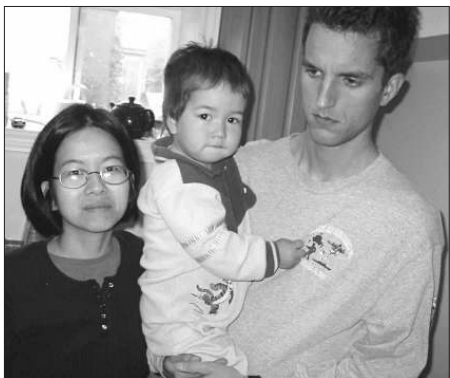
Had that been granted, he said, he would have served his obligation, would even have gone to Iraq as a medic or cook or anything that didn't involve combat operations.

"If I was in a situation where bullets were whizzing by, I'd be fine with that," he said. "I'm not saying I wouldn't be scared, but I would have soldiered on — as long as I wasn't pulling a trigger."

Hinzman spends his days reading and taking care of Liam, his 2½-year-old son, in the small back yard of the family's basement apartment in downtown Toronto. He and his wife, Nga Nguyen, a biologist and social worker who was barely 3 when her family fled Laos after the Vietnam War, take turns cooking vegetarian meals.

They are in legal limbo while Hinzman's case works its way through the Immigration and Refugee Board, which has scheduled a hearing for Dec. 6. They hope to get work permits and find jobs, but until then, as they pay for rent, food and lawyers' fees, their savings from Jeremy's three years in the Army dwindle.

"I told Jeremy I would support his decision, whether he left or he went to prison," said Nguyen, 31. "At least we are together as a family, and alive."



DOUG STRUCK/TWP

Jeremy Hinzman, with his wife, Nga Nguyen, and son, Liam, are in limbo in Toronto while Canada considers Hinzman's refugee application after deserting the U.S. military.

Hinzman makes occasional speeches along with two other U.S. deserters who have gone public. Pvt. Brandon Hughes, 19, and David Sanders, a Navy enlistee. At least one other deserter is in Canada, according to Jeffrey House, an attorney for the Americans, but has remained out of sight.

House, 57, said he felt a chill of recognition when Hinzman first came to his office. Thirty-four years earlier, House had crossed the border from Wisconsin rather than obey a draft notice during the Vietnam War.

Estimates of how many Americans came to Canada in those times to avoid service in the war range from 30,000 to 90,000. They were invited by the prime minister at the time, Pierre Trudeau, who in 1969 declared Canada to be "a refuge from militarism."

On taking office in 1977, President Jimmy Carter pardoned the draft dodgers and allowed deserters to apply for resolution of their cases.

Many of the Americans went home. Others stayed in Canada, and many flourished. Today they include several judges, scores of university professors, a popular radio host, a music promoter, politicians and a film critic.

"It's a big decision," House said of his client's action. "I respect and admire his decision."

House has argued to the refugee board that Hinzman is fleeing an illegal war. The

lawyer he is prepared to argue that the Iraq war has produced a pattern of war crimes — he says the abuse at Abu Ghraib prison is exhibit number one — that justifies a soldier's refusal to serve.

The government responded that the legality of the war was not an issue, and that anyway, the U.S. presence in Iraq had been sanctioned by the United Nations by the time Hinzman fled Fort Bragg in January.

The government's lawyer declined to discuss the case, as did spokesmen for the board and the Citizenship and Immigration Agency.

Others, however, have taken up the Americans' cause. A music promoter organized a concert in June to raise funds for them. A public relations firm in western Canada set up a Web site, now brimming with messages of support.

"There's a very strong feeling against the war in Iraq here," said Carolyn Egan, president of the United Steelworkers' local council, which voted to support Hinzman. Unlike the Vietnam resisters, she said, these deserters "are not coming off college campuses filled with a political ideology. They seem to be honest young men who have made very personal decisions that they cannot support the war."

Hinzman was raised in Rapid City, S.D., finished high school and worked as a baker for a while. Through mutual friends, he met and dated Nguyen, whose family had fled Laos in 1975.

They moved to Boston, got married, and Hinzman enlisted in the Army in January 2001 because, he said, it seemed an honorable vocation, steady, and with college benefits. He was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division and made 17 parachute jumps in training.

"The Army did give me focus and structure in my life," he said.

"When I enlisted, I figured I would be deployed. I thought if I was called up to do it, I could do it. But I was ignorant, probably stupid, of an ingrained inhibition to killing another human being."

Hinzman said he was repelled by the chants of "Kill! Kill!" in basic training and was more drawn to his readings of Buddhism.

"I was on the verge of going to Ranger school," he said. "But the side of that was I was going through internal debate about whether I could do this. I finally decided no."

In 2002, he applied for a conscientious objector status that would have kept him in the Army, but as a noncombatant. While his request was pending, his unit shipped out to Afghanistan. Hinzman went and was assigned to duties as a dishwasher and cook while his unit was in Kandahar from December 2002 to July 2003. In Afghanistan, a first lieutenant denied his application, saying the claimed reasons were "not congruent with the definition of conscientious objector."

Hinzman returned with his unit to Fort Bragg. But in late 2003, he was told they were being sent to Iraq. He and Nguyen talked at length, and "it became more and more obvious" he would refuse to go, he said. "It is an illegal war. I wasn't going to kill or be killed to subsidize gas for someone to drive their SUVs."

After New Year's Day, Hinzman helped install scopes on Army tanks.

The next night, with a three-day leave ahead, he and his family quietly put belongings in their Chevrolet Sprint and drove to western Canada.

They crossed at Niagara Falls at 6 p.m. Jan. 3, telling the border officer they were "visiting friends." It was a bit of a pun. Hinzman had been in touch with the Quakers and the Religious Society of Friends — and was headed for sanctuary in a Quaker meeting house in Toronto.

They called their parents. "Everyone has been very supportive," Hinzman said. "With the only exception being my grandpa. He has some issues with it, even though he thinks the war is wrong. I think he has a different concept of duty."

"I think the U.S. is a great country," Hinzman said. "But the direction that it's heading now is not a good one. I don't want to be a part of it. There is something to be said for staying behind, but a voice of opposition. But I wasn't called for that."

"Some people have put us as cowards, others have put us as victims," he mused. "I would say neither is true. I chose to do this. I feel I exhausted all the options I had."

# Blair reportedly said coalition couldn't wait for Saddam to die

The Associated Press

SINGAPORE — Malaysia's former leader claimed Monday that British Prime Minister Tony Blair had told him that ousted Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein had to be removed from power because the U.S.-led coalition was unwilling to wait for him to die naturally.

Mahathir Mohamed, a fierce critic of the war in Iraq, said he spoke with the British leader before the U.S.-led invasion of the Middle Eastern country, adding

that he urged Blair to be patient and wait for Hussein, 67, to die.

"But Blair said, 'Well Saddam Hussein is too young. He's not going to die soon enough,'" Mahathir said in a speech delivered in Singapore.

In London, a Downing Street spokesman, who spoke on condition of anonymity, had no immediate comment on Mahathir's claim, though he said of Blair's alleged remark: "I don't recognize it as you describe it."

Mahathir didn't give further

details about his conversation with Blair — President Bush's strongest ally.

His comments came as a new AP poll showed nearly two thirds of people in Britain disapprove of how Blair's government has been handling the war on terrorism.

The poll also revealed that three-fourths of Britons say they believe military action in Iraq has increased the threat of terrorism around the world.

Mahathir, who stepped down

after 22 years as Malaysia's prime minister in October last year, again sharply criticized the U.S.-led war in Iraq.

"The state of affairs today cannot truly be said to be better than when it was not democratic," he said, adding the situation in Iraq would just turn other Arab nations away from democracy.

"There is literally a civil war going on," he said, referring to the U.S.-led coalition as "invaders."

"Killing men, women and chil-

dren, the old and the infirm is justified. Starving and depriving them of medical treatment is justified because their death would bring about democracy," he said.

When asked about other ways to bring about political change, Mahathir said, "Assassination is one of them... If you're patient enough, leaders die some times."

"One way is ask a foreign friend to remove your leader, that's the second way," he said to subdued laughter from the 2,000-strong crowd.

# NCO fights on in Iraq despite his disease

Würzburg GI won't allow diabetes to stand in the way of fighting war, building career

BY STEVE LEWIS

Stars and Stripes

WÜRZBURG, Germany — Staff Sgt. Mark Thompson had so many a PT stud.

So it surprised him on that sunny day in November 2000 when he got lightheaded early in his morning physical training.

"I went running with some first sergeants, and I almost passed out," recalled Thompson, now 27. Then serving with the 1st Infantry Division's 4th Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery in Kitzingen, Thompson had a bright Army future.

He expected to soon add a staff sergeant's stripe, a solid achievement for a 23-year-old who had enlisted 4½ years earlier almost on a whim after growing up in an Iowa farm town. He also had decided to become a re-enlistment counselor — a good job for a gregarious soldier with a quick smile and an easy rapport with troops.

At first Thompson wrote off his weakness as the same bronchitis that had plagued his wife, Beth. He'd been suffering from cold symptoms, too.

But that wasn't all. Lately he'd had an unquenchable thirst. He'd also been dead tired, sleeping as many as 16 hours a day. His vision had been spotty, and he'd lost about 25 pounds from his 6-foot frame.

Thompson's running mates ordered him to sick call. He went reluctantly.

"Had I gone running with people of my rank or less, I probably would have blown it off," he said.

The medics gave him one blood test, then, a few days later, a second. Then they broke the news:



Thompson isn't worried about passing along diabetes to his 16-month-old son, Kyle. He said his Type 1 diabetes is not typically hereditary.

Thompson had diabetes, an incurable, life-threatening disease.

"It blew my mind," he recalled. "I said, 'I'm 23 years old, I don't have a disease!'"

Thompson had never heard of diabetes, so he scoured the Internet for information. He learned that, according to the American Diabetes Association, diabetes' bodies do not produce or properly use insulin. Insulin is a hormone needed to convert sugar, starches and other food into energy. About 18 million people have diabetes. More than 90 percent of them have Type 2, which is a resistance to insulin. Usually it occurs in middle age or later and is treated with medication.

Thompson learned that he had the much rarer Type 1 — formerly called "juvenile-onset diabetes" because it usually appears during childhood — in which the body stops producing insulin because of a defect in the autoimmune system. Untreated, the body's blood-sugar level fluctuates wildly. That can lead to heart disease, kidney disease, nerve damage and blindness.

With Type 1 diabetes, he found out, "No matter what, you have to inject insulin."

Needles suddenly became part of his life. Any food or exercise affected his blood sugar and required a shot, up to a dozen a day.

"I hated needles," he said. "The first time I gave myself a shot, I had to psyche myself up for about five minutes."

Later that year, Thompson would get the \$5,000 insulin pump he now wears on his belt. Every nine minutes, it shoots a jolt of insulin into him through a tiny catheter that runs to his stomach. It's made life much easier.

As much as the threat to his health, Thompson worried about the threat to his career. He had secured a spot in the Army's Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course in January 2001, a requirement for the promotion to E-6 he had earned.

"I'd gotten my [staff sergeant's] rocker," he said. "I was

so determined they weren't going to take that away from me."

He convinced doctors he could go. He did well at BNOC and, a few months later, was the honor

grad, and earned the highest physical training score at career counselor school.

Still, his career remained in danger. A medical board in Washington would review his case and decide, finally, whether Thompson could stay in the Army.

His doctors backed him. In July 2002, the board agreed.

Thompson's next big challenge came after the 1st Infantry Division got orders to Iraq for February 2004. He learned that Sgt. Maj. Scott Kuhar, commander of the division's career counselors, had selected him to stay home. That bothered him.

"I didn't want to be labeled 'rear detachment' every time we deployed," Thompson said.

He found out the hospital in Tikrit stocked insulin. He learned that his downrange office had a refrigerator to keep his medicine safely cool — a big problem during Iraq's blistering summers. He secured syringes and special cool packs for emergencies.

Thompson convinced Kuhar he could go. He was in Iraq from February to July, then came home to Würzburg for his turn in the rear. He was scheduled to return to Tikrit over this weekend and stay until the 1st ID returns to Germany next spring.

According to the division's surgeon, Lt. Col. Michael Brumage, Thompson is the only insulin-dependent diabetic deployed with the unit in Iraq.

"I'm really impressed with the way he monitors [his diabetes]," Kuhar said. "He takes a very aggressive approach."

Not that it's been easy. Thompson said he's been forced to use all of his contingency plans. His pump has broken twice, forcing him to return temporarily to his regimen of shots. And he's had to use his cool packs several times during power failures.

Last week, Thompson played with his 16-month-old son, Kyle, and eagerly awaited his return to the combat zone.

Not so wife Beth, whose adjustment since his diagnosis has been almost as great as her husband's. Now, on top of the usual deployment fears, she's concerned about his disease.

"I worry about him more than he worries about himself," she said.

Thompson freely discusses his diabetes, and is not shy about injecting himself in front of others.

"A lot of diabetics are bashful about the disease because it makes you different," he said. "But I just keep it out in the open."

"You would not know he had it unless he told you," Kuhar said. "He's a great NCO. He just did not let diabetes ever stop him from doing his job."

For more about diabetes, see the American Diabetes Association Web site, [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org)

E-mail: Steve Lewis at: [lewis@mail.istripes.osd.mil](mailto:lewis@mail.istripes.osd.mil)

Stars and Stripes

## Stripes Spotlight

**Staff Sgt. Mark Thompson**

Thompson has fought a determined battle against Type 1 diabetes to become one of the few diabetic soldiers to serve in a combat zone.

**Job:** Career counselor for 1st Infantry Division in Würzburg, Germany, and Tikrit, Iraq

**Age:** 27

**Family:** Wife, Beth; son, Kyle, 16 months

**Hometown:** Conesville, Iowa



PHOTOS BY STEVE LEWIS/Stars and Stripes

Thompson wears a \$5,000 insulin pump on his belt. Every nine minutes, the pump shoots a jolt of insulin into his body through a small tube in his stomach to control his Type 1 diabetes, which was diagnosed four years ago.

## IN THE WORLD

# Poll: Karzai wins Afghan vote

## Main opposition candidate backs off boycott of election results

BY AMIR SHAH

The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — An exit poll conducted by an American nonprofit group projected interim President Hamid Karzai would win Afghanistan's presidential election as the main opposition candidate in backed off a boycott of the vote on Monday.

Ethnic Tajik candidate Yunus Qanouni, considered the likely runner-up to interim President Hamid Karzai, made the announcement at his Kabul home on Monday, a day after two other candidates also peeled away from the boycott. He said he would accept the findings of an independent commission to look into alleged cheating. He said he had made his decision after a meeting with U.N. representative Jean Arnault and U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad.

"I don't want to be against the election and I appreciate the good will of the people of Afghanistan," Qanouni said. "I want to prove to the people of Afghanistan that the national interest is my highest interest."

The announcement was a huge victory for election organizers, who agreed to set up the panel on Sunday in hopes it would end the crisis that emerged when all 15 opposition candidates announced the boycott — in the middle of Saturday's voting.

Massouda Jalal, the only female candidate, and ethnic Hazara candidate Mohammed Mo-haqeq said Sunday they would end their boycott in favor of setting up the panel.

The survey by the International Republican Institute, which is closely tied to the U.S. Republican Party although it has no direct affiliation with the GOP, said the U.S.-backed Karzai would finish ahead of Qanouni by an overwhelming 43 percentage points.

The group, which sent a 13-member observer team to monitor the elections, said that Karzai was well over the 50 percent mark necessary to avoid a runoff. But it did not give a breakdown of support for all the candidates nor did it release supporting data.

A senior Western official who met with some of the 15 candidates on Sunday said many had decided to back down and support the investigative team.

"Some of the candidates say they made that statement [the boycott] in too much of a rush," the official said on condition of anonymity. "They are now looking for a way out that allows them to save face."

Election observers, the U.S. Embassy and Karzai have all sought to put the best face possible on the vote, noting that Taliban rebels were mostly silent and that turnout was high in a nation that has never before tasted democracy.



Exit polls released Monday indicated Afghan President Hamid Karzai retained his office in historic weekend elections.

AP

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## U.S., Norwegian men win Nobel economy prize

BY MATT MOORE

The Associated Press

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Norwegian Finn E. Kydland and American Edward C. Prescott received the 2004 Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences on Monday for shedding light on how government policies and actions affect economies worldwide.

The work in macroeconomics, which examines inflation, changes in production and unemployment, has been used to chart how countries, including New Zealand, Sweden and Great Britain, among others, chart their monetary policy decisions through independent central banks and adapting to unexpected market fluctuations such as rising oil prices or a drop in worker productivity, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said.

The 60-year-old Kydland teaches at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pa., and the University of California at Santa Barbara, while Prescott, 63, is at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz., and part of the Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis, Minn.

Both laureates published their work in joint papers in 1977 and 1982.

In the 1970s, many Western countries had problems with high inflation because their central banks didn't keep a consistent monetary policy, but accepted rising inflation for a short-term decrease in unemployment, said Per Krusell, a member of the Nobel Committee for Economics. Kydland and Prescott's 1977 article highlighted this problem, which led to many countries forcing their central banks to stick to certain policies, regardless of what forces on the market wanted.

This year's prize is worth \$1.3 million.

## EU lifts Libya sanctions

LUXEMBOURG — The European Union on Monday ended 11 years of sanctions against Libya and eased an arms embargo to reward the North African country for giving up plans to develop weapons of mass destruction.

The move reflected a significant warming of relations in recent months.

The decision by the 25 EU foreign ministers followed last year's decision by the United Nations Security Council to lift 11-year U.N. sanctions against Tripoli.

## Euro gets high marks

AMSTERDAM, Netherlands — European financial policy-makers, assessing the euro five years after its creation, gave the currency high marks Monday, but said governments need to reinvigorate their commitment to cutting deficits and making their economies more dynamic.

"The euro is firmly established as the second most important currency on the international market," said EU finance minister Joop Almunia.

Almunia said the high value of the euro in relation to the dollar should not impair economic recovery.

## Kurds hail EU decision

ISTANBUL, Turkey — Turkish Kurds are hailing the historic EU recommendation to put Turkey on the road for membership, saying the bloc will help guarantee the cultural rights that they hope for and promote economic development in the impoverished overwhelmingly Kurdish southeast.

"If Turkey enters the EU, then separatism would be impossible because Turkey would enter as a whole — and that is how it should be," said Sedika Gurur, head of Gok-Der, an association for internally displaced Kurds.

## No bugging on embargo

LUXEMBOURG — European Union foreign ministers were unlikely to reach agreement on lifting the bloc's 15-year-old arms embargo on China despite strong French pressure, officials said Monday.

A majority of EU nations remain against lifting the ban, arguing Beijing has not done enough to improve the human rights situation. It was imposed in 1989 after Beijing's bloody crackdown on pro-democracy protests in Tiananmen Square.

Washington argues that lifting the European ban could undermine stability in east Asia and hurt efforts to improve human rights in China. EU officials said U.S. lobbying had made unanimous support needed for lifting the ban unlikely.

## EU to boost India ties

LUXEMBOURG — The European Union on Monday pledged to increase ties with India, saying it sees "great potential" for more cooperation on issues ranging from nuclear nonproliferation to poverty and reform of the United Nations.

The EU foreign ministers endorsed a "strategic partnership" that sees "a great potential for deepening the substantial and growing EU-India relationship in several key areas."

From The Associated Press



Egyptian police guard Sunday the compound of the Taba Hilton, the site of a car bombing and suicide attack Thursday in Taba, Egypt. Dozens have been detained on suspicion they supplied explosives for car bomb attacks at two Egyptian resorts that killed at least 34 people.

# Egypt shuts blast site to investigate

BY SARAH EL DEEB

The Associated Press

TABA, Egypt — With Israeli rescue workers gone, the Egyptian military closed off the scene of a luxury hotel bombing that targeted Israeli tourists to clear more debris Monday and collect evidence for investigators tracing the explosives and vehicles.

Egyptian security officials said Sunday that a Bedouin tribesman has confessed to selling explosives that might have been used in the three small resort car bombings that killed at least 34 people.

They said investigators are now looking into Palestinian militant involvement.

In Israel, Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom reiterated Monday his government believes responsibility lies with the al-Qaida terror network led by Osama bin Laden, although it was not "100 percent" sure.

The deadliest of the three attacks was at the Taba Hilton, where the front rooms on a 10-story wing of the hotel were sheared off.

Three car bombs, each packed with 400 pounds of explosives, exploded Thursday night, one at the Taba Hilton just south of the Egypt-Israel border and two at Ras Shitan.

Egypt's Interior Ministry put the death toll at 34, including 11 Israelis, eight Egyptians, one Russian, two Italians and 12 victims whose identities and nationalities remained unconfirmed.

The dead also were believed to include eastern Europeans.

Israeli Maj. Gen. Yair Naveh said that in addition to the Isuzu pickup truck that exploded at the hotel, a suicide bomber inside detonated another bomb.

"To our relief, the bomber who entered the hotel did not enter the hotel restaurants, something which would have brought down at least half the hotel," he said.

An Egyptian investigator said the Bedouin tribesman who was cooperating with police said he had sold explosives to buyers assuming they would be sent to the Palestinian territories.

Egyptian security officials said some of the dozens of Bedouins detained for questioning after the attacks have been cooperating with authorities.

## Saudis defend closing charity

The Associated Press

KUWAIT CITY — A Saudi charity was dissolved as a "correctional" measure although there was no evidence of its financing terrorism, the Saudi interior minister said in remarks published Monday.

Prince Nayef's interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper Al-Watan offered the first explanation for the disbanding of Al-Haramain Islamic Foundation in June. The charity was closed as part of a clampdown on fund-raising for causes abroad.

"Actually, this organization's administration and work is not well organized," Nayef told the newspaper during his weekend visit to Kuwait. "And that is why it was decided it could allow leaks — that could harm the country."

The minister said the disbanding was "correctional and organizational."

Asked if there was any evidence that money from the Riyadh-based charity ended up in terrorist hands, Prince Nayef said: "There might have been

something against some individuals, but as far as material evidence, there was none."

He did not elaborate. Numerous countries have suspected that Al-Haramain might be bankrolling al-Qaida, the terror network led by Osama bin Laden.

The charity's branches in 10 countries, mostly in Africa and Asia, have been shut down for suspected ties to al-Qaida and other terror groups.

The charity has repeatedly denied that its money goes to terrorist groups. One of its directors said the Saudi government dissolved the charity under American pressure "to totally wipe out the activities of Saudi charities."

The United States and Saudi Arabia have said they were jointly asking the United Nations to add five branches of Al-Haramain to its blacklist of terrorist financiers. If they are added to the U.N. list, any Al-Haramain assets could be frozen in the states where those branches are located. The five branches are in the Netherlands, Albania, Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Ethiopia.

## Greek terrorists get 25 years for bombings

By PATRICK QUINN

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Greece — A court sentenced four members of a far-left terrorist group to 25 years imprisonment for a 20-year bombing campaign against both domestic and American targets.

The three men and one woman convicted for their involvement in Revolutionary Popular Struggle, or ELA, were taken to jail after the non-jury court rejected a request for their sentences to be suspended pending an appeal — a date for which was not set. The three judges originally sentenced them to 1,174 years each.

Angeletos Kanas, 52, Costas Agapiou, 56, Irene Athanassiaki, 50, and Christos Tsigaridas, 64, were convicted by a special anti-terrorism court for weapons possession and lesser charges of complicity — a felony — in 42 of more than 70 bombings, one murder, and 48 of 74 murder at-

tempts. The court acquitted one man, 58-year-old Michalis Kassinis.

A defense attorney said Tsigaridas would begin a hunger strike Tuesday to protest the sentences. Tsigaridas, a civil engineer, was convicted as the head of ELA.

All four had been free on bail over the past couple of months.

In the 20 years it was active until it disbanded in 1995, ELA was blamed for killing a police officer and supreme court prosecutor. It was also held responsible for scores of murder attempts and bombings.

More than 30 attacks were aimed at American targets, mostly in the early 1980s, including the bombing of the U.S. ambassador's residence, embassy vehicles, as well as branches of American banks and companies.

The four were arrested during a security crackdown ahead of the Aug. 13-20 Olympics. Many of their alleged crimes have exceeded Greece's statute of limitations.



## IN THE STATES

## Actor, activist Christopher Reeve dead at 52

BY JIM FITZGERALD  
The Associated Press

MOUNT KISCO, N.Y. — "Superman" actor Christopher Reeve, who turned personal tragedy into a public crusade and from his wheelchair became the nation's most recognizable spokesman for spinal cord research, has died. He was 52.

Reeve went into cardiac arrest Saturday at his Pound Ridge home, then fell into a coma and died Sunday at a hospital surrounded by his family, his publicist said.

His advocacy for stem cell research helped it emerge as a major campaign issue between President Bush and his Democratic opponent, Sen. John Kerry.

In the last week, Reeve had developed a serious systemic infection from a pressure wound, a common complication for people living with paralysis. He entered the hospital Saturday.

Dana Reeve thanked her husband's personal staff of nurses and aides, "as well as the millions of fans from around the world."

Before the 1995 accident, his athletic, 6-foot-4-inch frame and love of adventure made him a natural, if largely unknown, choice for the title role in the first "Superman" movie in 1978.

Reeve's life changed after he broke his neck in May 1995 when he was thrown from his horse during an equestrian competition in Culpeper, Va.

Enduring months of therapy to allow him to breathe for longer and longer periods without a respirator, Reeve emerged to



Christopher Reeve and wife Dana arrive at the 2003 Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation gala event in New York.

lobby Congress for better insurance protection against catastrophic injury. He moved an Academy Award audience to tears with a call for more films about social issues.

"Hollywood needs to do more," he said in the 1996 Oscar awards appearance. "Let's continue to take risks. Let's tackle the issues. In many ways our film community can do it better than anyone else."

## Reeve's filmography

Some of Christopher Reeve's film credits:

- "A Step Toward Tomorrow" 1996
- "Village of the Damned" 1995
- "Speechless" 1994
- "The Remains of the Day" 1993
- "Noises Off" 1992
- "Switching Channels" 1988
- "Superman IV: The Quest for Peace" 1987
- "Street Smart" 1987
- "The Aviator" 1985
- "The Bostonians" 1984
- "Superman III" 1983
- "Moonstruck" 1982
- "Deathtrap" 1982
- "Somewhere in Time" 1980
- "Superman II" 1980
- "Superman" 1978
- "Gray Lady Down" 1978

From The Associated Press

He returned to directing, and even returned to acting in a 1998 production of "Rear Window," a modern update of the Hitchcock thriller about a man in a wheelchair who becomes convinced a neighbor has been murdered. Reeve won a Screen Actors Guild award for best actor in a TV movie or miniseries.

In 2000, Reeve was able to move his index finger, and a specialized workout regimen made his legs and arms stronger.

With rigorous therapy, involving repeated electrical stimulation of the muscles, he also regained sensation in other parts of his body. He vowed to walk again.

"I refuse to allow a disability to determine how I live my life. I don't mean to be reckless, but setting a goal that seems a bit daunting actually is very helpful toward recovery," Reeve said.

Dr. John McDonald treated Reeve as director of the Spinal Cord Injury Program at Washington University in St. Louis.

"Before him there was really no hope," McDonald said. "If you had a spinal cord injury like his there was not much that could be done, but he's changed all that. He's demonstrated that there is hope and that there are things that can be done."

Reeve was born Sept. 25, 1952, in New York City, son of a novelist and a newspaper reporter. About the age of 10, he made his first stage appearance — in Gilbert and Sullivan's "The Yeoman of the Guard" at a theater in Princeton, N.J.

While filming "Superman" in London, Reeve met modeling agency co-founder Gae Exton, and the two began a relationship that lasted several years. The couple had a son and a daughter, but never wed. Reeve later married Dana Morosini; they had one son, Will, 12.

Reeve also is survived by his mother, Barbara Johnson; his father, Franklin Reeve; his brother, Benjamin Reeve; and his two children from his relationship with Exton, Matthew, 25, and Alexandra, 21.

Plans for a funeral were not immediately announced.

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# Senate passes \$136B corporate tax bill

BY JIM ABRAMS  
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed a far-reaching, \$136 billion corporate tax package Monday that cuts taxes for businesses ranging from film companies to bow and arrow makers while closing tax loopholes and bringing U.S. exporters in line with international trade rules.

With the 69-17 vote, the legislation that was two years in the making and required a rare weekend session in the Senate to complete, goes to President Bush for his signature.

"About 200,000 American manufacturers will receive a benefit to help create jobs," said Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont.

Senators also passed by voice vote two spending bills for 2005, a \$33 billion homeland security bill and another including \$14.5 billion in relief for Hurricane

victims and drought-ravaged farmers in the Plains states, before their belated departure for the campaign trail.

The House adjourned on Saturday after finishing its actions on the three bills.

Monday's vote was made possible by a Sunday night agreement to satisfy the concerns of several Democrats threatening to immobilize the Senate with a weeklong filibuster.

Sens. Mary Landrieu, D-La., and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., sought to protect measures left out of the corporate tax bill, while Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, objected to a cut in spending for a farm conservation program linked to drought assistance.

In the settlement, the three senators were promised mostly symbolic votes in which the Senate will reaffirm positions it has taken in the past, but which have been opposed by House Republican leaders.

Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, blamed politics for the difficulties in getting the bill through Congress. "Certain members of this body don't want a Republican president signing a jobs bill a few days before the election," he said.

Harkin held up action on the hurricane aid, attached to a \$10 billion military construction spending bill, to protest the decision to pay for the \$2.9 billion in drought relief by cutting a farm conservation program that he has championed.

The hurricane money, intended mostly for the election battleground state of Florida, is not budgeted and will increase the federal deficit.

Landrieu won agreement for a vote on a measure giving a 50 percent tax credit to employers who compensate workers up to \$30,000 in lost pay when military

Reservists or National Guard members are called to active duty. It was estimated to have a \$2.5 billion cost over 10 years.

Her proposal had been in the Senate version of the corporate tax bill but was taken out when House Republicans opposed it. Given that opposition, it was unlikely to win House passage.

Harkin got a vote Monday on a Senate resolution to instruct members of an upcoming budget conference committee that the Senate wants funding restored for the agriculture conservation program.

The corporate tax bill grew out of the need for Congress to respond to a World Trade Organization ruling that a \$5 billion annual subsidy for U.S. exporters was illegal. As a result, 1,600 American exports to Europe are being hit by penalty tariffs that now stand at 12 percent and are rising by one percentage point a month.

The bill became the vehicle for the most significant overhaul of corporate tax law in nearly two decades. It includes \$76.5 billion in new tax relief for the manufacturing sector, which was broadly defined to include oil and gas producers, architectural and engineering firms and film and music companies.

The Senate late Sunday approved two measures pushed by Kennedy and Harkin to reassert FDA authority over tobacco and to ban implementation of new Bush administration rules that critics say will deny overtime pay to millions of workers. Both proposals are unlikely to win approval in the House.

In addition to the tax relief for manufacturing, the tax measure has \$42.6 billion in tax relief for multinational companies. All the tax breaks are paid for by \$136 billion in measures intended to close corporate loopholes and tax shelters.



Democratic presidential nominee Sen. John Kerry, D-Mass., gives a quick speech at a rally Sunday at the Albuquerque International Sunport Airport in Albuquerque, N.M.

## Kerry urges newer energy alternatives

BY MARY DALRYMPLE  
The Associated Press

SANTA FE, N.M. — John Kerry said Monday that President Bush has done little to bring down energy costs and encourage alternative energy development, choosing to help energy companies instead of consumers.

"Just like on every other issue, they'll tell you they have an energy plan," Kerry said in remarks prepared for delivery. But as usual, it's a plan that warms the hearts of their powerful friends and leaves you out in the cold."

Setting the stage for his third annual face-to-face meeting with Bush on Wednesday, this time focusing on domestic issues, Kerry detailed his energy plan and criticized the Republican-controlled Congress for failing to pass an energy bill.

"Instead of standing up for you, George Bush has chosen secret meetings with the energy industry behind closed doors in the White House," Kerry said. "And after four years of empty rhetoric and inaction, the Republican-con-

trolled Congress is ending another session without passing a good energy bill for America. At the end of the day, George Bush just couldn't get it done."

Speaking late Sunday in Albuquerque, Kerry said he would push scientists at the state's major government research labs in Sandia and Los Alamos to develop alternative fuels.

"We're going to get them moving to get us into alternative, renewable energy. We're going to start making America energy-independent," the Massachusetts senator said.

The Bush-Cheney campaign said Kerry had worked in the Senate against the president's proposals to decrease the nation's dependence on foreign oil and develop renewable energy.

"John Kerry's obstruction of a national energy policy makes his current political opportunism completely hypocritical," said spokesman Steve Schmidt. "John Kerry will tell people whatever he thinks they want to hear, and his multiple positions are destroying his credibility with the American people."

## Bush pans Kerry on terror remark

BY DEB RIECHMANN  
The Associated Press

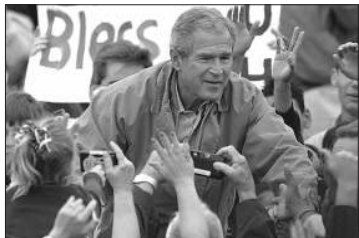
HOBBS, N.M. — President Bush criticized Democratic challenger John Kerry on Monday for suggesting that the anti-terror battle should reduce terrorists to "a nuisance" from the current full-time crisis.

"I couldn't disagree more," Bush said. "Our goal is not to reduce terror to some acceptable level of nuisance. Our goal is to defeat terror by staying on the offensive, destroying terrorist networks and spreading freedom and liberty around the world."

Kerry said in an interview in *The New York Times Magazine* on Sunday, "We have to get back to the place we were, where terrorists are not the focus of our lives but they're a nuisance."

The Bush campaign is also criticizing the comment in a new television ad.

Phil Singer, a Kerry-Edwards spokesman, said the Republicans were taking a single Kerry sen-



President Bush greets supporter during a rally Monday in Hobbs, N.M.

tence out of context. "Considering that George Bush doesn't think we can win the war on terror, let Osama bin Laden escape and rushed into Iraq with no plan to win the peace, it's no surprise that

his campaign is distorting every word John Kerry has ever said," the spokesman said.

Bush was accompanied by daughter Jenna Bush as well as George P. Bush, the president's Hispanic nephew who often helps court Hispanic voters for the Bush ticket in areas such as this with large Hispanic populations. New Mexico was won by Democrat Al Gore by just 366 votes in 2000 and could be tight again this year.

With people wrapped in blankets against the chilly morning and a sulfur smell coming from nearby oil wells, the town was clearly excited to have Bush for a visit. Schools were shut down and the event was expanded to accommodate all those who wanted to come.

Bush has delighted Republican supporters with a harder-hitting stance against Kerry, hoping to stunt the momentum the Massachusetts senator gained from the first debate and a week of difficult news for Bush on Iraq and the economy.

Looking ahead to Wednesday's final debate in Tempe, Ariz., set to focus entirely on domestic issues, Bush is devoting more time to talking about Kerry's record on taxes, health care and domestic issues.

### On the issues

Do you support a federal cap on medical malpractice awards as a way to restrain health insurance costs?

#### President Bush

"Yes, My proposal would ensure that injured persons are fully compensated for their economic losses, while reasonably limiting noneconomic damages to \$250,000. It would also reserve

#### Sen. John Kerry

"I will require that a qualified specialist certifies a medical malpractice case's merit before it is allowed to move forward. I will also work with states so we have nonbinding mediation in all malpractice claims before cases proceed to trial. Lawyers who

punitive damages for cases in which they are justified, ensure that old cases cannot be brought years after an event, and provide that defendants should pay judgments in proportion to their fault."

file frivolous cases would face tough, mandatory sanctions, including a three strikes and you're out provision. I also oppose punitive damages — unless intentional misconduct, gross negligence, or reckless indifference to life can be established."

# Families mourn crash victims

BY CARYN ROUSSEAU  
The Associated Press

WEST MEMPHIS, Ark. — While relatives kept vigil at hospitals and church parishioners prayed for the dead, investigators scoured the crash site where a bus packed with gamblers overturned, killing 14 passengers.

Thirty people were aboard the Mississippi-bound charter bus from Chicago when it flipped over early Saturday on Interstate 55, 25 miles north of Memphis. Sixteen people were injured.

The twice-a-year trip had become a tradition for the passengers, as much about visiting, laughing and reminiscing as it was about trying to strike it rich at a casino in Tunica, Miss.

"It's just neighborhood and community," Brenda Clay said Sunday in a hospital waiting room. "There's still good old American communities where people get together and do things together."

Clay kept vigil at the Regional Medi-

cal Center in Memphis because her relative, 62-year-old Herbert Redmond, was taken there after the accident. She had nothing but gratitude for those who helped on the scene and at the hospital.

One of the firefighters, Clay said, helped care for Redmond.

"He was conscious, just a minute or so," Clay said. "Even though he was awake only for a brief time, it was good that someone was there."

Investigators planned to create computer models of the accident in their search for a cause. On Sunday, they combed through the grass, looking for clues to why the bus drifted off the road.

A reconstruction of the accident was under way. But officials cautioned that a final police report would not be ready for a week.

Findings by the National Transportation Safety Board will take longer.

"There is not going to be a magic answer provided to you today to the question, 'How did this crash hap-

pen?'" said Arkansas State Police spokesman Bill Sadler.

Authorities said the probe would include an attempt to determine if the driver fell asleep, and a review of the mechanical condition of the bus. Investigators also want to know if weather or road conditions contributed to the wreck.

The owner of the mom-and-pop tour operation, Roosevelt Walters of Chicago, lost his wife and brother, both 67, in the crash.

Walters' wife, Mareen, arranged the trip; his brother, Herbert, was the driver.

"In one instant, he lost it all," the Rev. James Meeks told his congregation at Salem Baptist Church on Chicago's South Side.

Police said they interviewed some motorists who were driving behind the bus when the crash happened, as well as some survivors.

"After the trauma and shock and they come to themselves, they may remember more," state police Lt. Tommy Wicker said.



Linda McCormick is comforted by longtime friend Terry Bell on Sunday, the day after Linda's mother, Mamie, was killed when a tour bus veered off a highway in Arkansas.

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## Gas, crude oil prices still rising

BY TIM MOLLOY  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — High crude oil futures prices are being pushed up by a spike in the cost of gasoline, which has gone up nearly 8 cents a gallon over the past two weeks.

From Sept. 24 through Friday, the combined national average for all grades of gas rose to \$2.02 a gallon, according to Trilby Lundberg, who publishes the semimonthly Lundberg Survey of 7,000 gas stations across the country.

Self-serve regular, the biggest seller, now costs \$1.99 a gallon; midgrade is \$2.09, and premium is \$2.18, Lundberg said.

Lundberg blamed the increase on the rising cost of crude, which hit \$53.31 a barrel on Friday, and said prices are likely to continue to climb in the short term. But they may begin to come down as hurricane-damaged petroleum facilities in the Gulf of Mexico are repaired, she said.

"That is, unless we have a new event such as an especially cold winter, in the U.S. or internationally, snapping up home heating supplies and prices, which would add to the value of crude oil," Lundberg said Sunday.

While crude oil futures prices are about 79 percent higher than a year ago, they are \$27 below the peak inflation-adjusted price reached in 1981.

Meanwhile, the nation's most expensive gas during the past two weeks was sold in San Diego, where self-serve regular was \$2.35 a gallon. The cheapest was in Houston, where self-serve regular was \$1.84.

Gas prices have gone up 13.07 cents since Sept. 10, when the combined national average for all grades was \$1.89 a gallon.





# OPINION

## One state that's not majority-Jewish will fail

Los Angeles Times

The second intifada, or Palestinian war on Israel, is 4 years old. Although it has featured guns and suicide bombs, it has failed just like the first intifada, in 1987-93, which featured rocks and Molotov cocktails. For every dead Israeli, there are three dead Palestinians. Thousands have been injured. Thousands more have been turned into refugees by Israel's unseizable policy of avenging suicide bombs by destroying the houses of the bombers' relatives. The Palestinian economy is now totally dependent on wages from jobs in Israel — a shambles, as Israel quite understandably has become choosier about who it lets in.

The headlines have obscured one remarkable positive development: Israel's acceptance in principle of a Palestinian state. Even Prime Minister Ariel Sharon — the most anti-Arab of all Israeli politicians — accepts it, in principle. In fact, he is building a barrier that looks like the one about where Israel's border with this state should be.

Palestinian leaders are flummoxed. And some of them are abandoning the two-state solution — Israel and Palestine, side by side — in favor of a one-state solution, secular, single, state in which Jews and Arabs would live in democratic harmony. This idea is percolating through the Western intelligentsia and even into

left-wing circles in Israel.

So what is the problem? It's that such a state would not be Jewish. The premise of Zionism — the premise of Israel — is that Jews need and deserve their own state. Israel has always been slightly disingenuous about this, boasting that Arabs living in Israel proper (i.e., not the disputed territories) enjoy full civil equality. This is possible only because so many Arabs fled or were driven out when the Jewish state was declared in 1948.

A single state encompassing Israel and the disputed territories would reinvent this problem. It would bring the descendants of many 1948 refugees back into the fold, along with other Arabs. The higher Arab birthrate would make Jews a shrinking minority.

Many Americans might ask, so what? The United States prides itself on being a melting pot of different races, ethnicities and religions. But most countries are more like Israel. They define themselves ethnically or religiously or (like the surprising new states that popped up out of the dying Soviet empire) by some ancient and long-suppressed geographical chauvinism. Nations are, in political scientist Benedict Anderson's memorable phrase, "imagined communities," and the imagination takes many forms.

Good fences make good neighbors, as Robert Frost famously put it. In 1947, the late prime Britain abandoned Palestine. It also left the Indian subcontinent. But first Britain di-



vided the area into two nations: India for Hindus and Pakistan for Muslims. The result hasn't been blissful. But there hasn't been an all-out war for 33 years. A one-state solution would have been nastier.

Israel must remain a Jewish state, and to do that and be a democracy as well, it must always have a Jewish majority. That has been a limit on the imperial ambitions of

some of Israel's less-attractive leaders. It is also a limit on what the world and the Palestinians can expect Israel to accept.

It took the Israelis decades to accept the idea of a Palestinian state next door. They saw it as a staging ground for conquest and elimination of the Jewish state. The "single-state" solution would achieve that same illegitimate goal by more devious means.

## Candidates eye our health care wants, not needs

BY M. GREGG BLOCH

It's time to cut George W. Bush and John F. Kerry a break on health care issues. We the people are tired of "flip-flop-ers." We're the ones sending "mixed messages." And we expect Bush and Kerry to suffer us gladly.

We've been telling pollsters that we're all about soaring health insurance premiums and out-of-pocket payments — and afraid that our employers will drop our coverage. But we want our brie, our Big Macs and our Lipitor too. We want breakthrough drugs and high-resolution scans. We beam their cost, but we're willing to pay.

Candidates watch what we do, not what we say. So it's no surprise that neither Bush's nor Kerry's health plans will lower medical spending below current levels. Both candidates defer to our preferences for pricey technologies that inspire hope.

It's a myth that medical advances trim health care spending. New treatments typically cost more than those they supplant. There are dramatic exceptions: Breakthroughs in research sometimes open the way to elegant, simple therapies that are cheap. The antibiotic revolution of the mid-20th century is an example. ...

We may now be at an equally decisive therapeutic moment. Published studies suggest wide use of statins, a new class of cholesterol-lowering drugs, could greatly reduce the incidence of cardiovascular disease. And stem-cell research promises large advances on many fronts.

But let long term, such developments would raise health care spending. ... As we age, our bodies fail us in ways that doctors can't cure, and we expect high-tech rescue efforts that cause medical spending to soar. These last-ditch measures will fail to yield benefits that justify their costs. But we're loath to abandon hope. ... Any political push for spending limits that reduce this hope would arouse popular anger.

Neither Bush nor Kerry is pressing for such limits. ... Yet there are sharp differences between their approaches. ...

The president would aggressively employ the government to motivate consumers to weigh the costs and benefits of care and coverage options. (Bush) contends that Americans who do so will forgo low-value services and high-price coverage.

But making medicine a matter of consumer choice is, for Bush, a goal in itself. To do this, the president would radically reduce the role of medical insurance in health care decision-making outside the hospital. He would use tax incentives to encourage employees to set up "health care savings accounts" for out-of-pocket purchase of care; insurance would be limited to "catastrophic coverage" or expenses exceeding several thousand dollars a year. This would accelerate the trend toward greater patient cost-sharing, through higher co-payments and deductibles.

But this strategy has only limited potential to control costs. Making routine care into an out-of-pocket expense discourages people, especially the least well-off, from obtaining services — close management of diabetes and high blood pressure, for example — that offer long-term health benefits. That, in turn, could boost impatient spending, the main factor behind rising health care costs.

For Medicare, Bush still urges privatization, despite evidence that private health plans spend no less than Medicare's fee-for-service program. ...

As does Bush, Kerry takes a permissive stance toward the high-tech, rescue-oriented spending that is the main force behind rising costs. To control health care spending, the Democratic nominee would use the government to group patients together to enhance their bargaining power in order to get better deals from doctors, hospitals and drug companies.

One way to illustrate the philosophical difference between the two candidates is to revisit the debate over Medicare's new prescription drug program. Bush and his allies insisted on a provision that forbids the government to use the buying power of Medicare's 40 million beneficiaries to bargain for lower prices. As a result, private health plans act as middlemen, striking separate deals (which makes for higher prices) with drug makers and sellers.

Kerry would roll back the ban on use of the government's bargaining power. He'd do something similar for the private sector, by allowing states to use their buying power to save money.

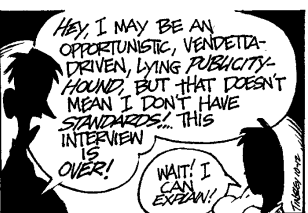
under Medicaid to obtain lower drug prices for all purchasers. The same vision animates Kerry's approach to employment-based medical coverage. He would encourage businesses, large and small, to buy in to the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program, thereby combining their purchasing power to obtain lower rates. Tax credits would help the smallest employers buy in, extending coverage to uninsured Americans.

Kerry ... would make the federal government responsible for a small number of high-cost cases that consume an outsized share of health care resources. By picking up three-quarters of the cost of all episodes of care that exceed \$50,000, governments could cut premiums by 10 percent or more. ...

Neither Bush nor Kerry is challenging us to live within limits we're not ready to accept. But they've set out starkly different approaches to manage medical costs absent cultural acceptance of the need, sometimes, to say no.

At Gregg Bloch teaches health law and policy at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins universities and edited "The Privatization of Health Care Reform." This column first appeared in the Los Angeles Times.

### Mallard Fillmore



BY BRUCE TINSLEY

# 'For the enlisted man, first, last and all the time'

## 2nd ID museum receives historic and rare copies of Stars and Stripes from World War I

BY SETH ROBSON  
Stars and Stripes

CAMP RED CLOUD, South Korea — The son of a 2nd Infantry Division World War I veteran has donated a pair of rare copies of Stars and Stripes, including the last edition produced during the Great War, to the 2nd ID Museum in South Korea.

Museum staff said Ralf Disher, 82, of Killen, Texas, donated the newspapers, dated Oct. 18, 1918, and June 13, 1919. Disher's late father, who served with 2nd ID from its birth in 1917, brought the newspapers home from France at the end of the war.

The newspapers will be preserved by the museum along with a series of recently donated Indian magazines, the precursors of the Indianhead — 2nd ID's official in-house publication, museum officials said.

Disher told the *Killeen Daily Herald* he wanted the newspapers kept for and put on display.

"They were a morale factor" during World War I, he said. "Dad said they were hard to get. The only time you got to see a newspaper was when you were in the rear."

The old newspapers have much in common with today's Stars and Stripes: they are printed on larger, broadsheet papers and were produced just once a week instead of daily.

The 1918 newspaper includes

such headlines as "No Peace with Hohenzollern says President," "Aerial newsboys deliver army newspaper," and "Yanks play part in success of another big attack."

The front page includes a message from then-Secretary of War Newton D. Baker, who recently had visited the trenches, and a report on the taking of 17,000 German prisoners of war. The most prominent story, featuring an illustration of a U.S. soldier carrying a small child, is about a campaign to raise money to care for 500 orphans of French soldiers killed in the war.

The 1919 newspaper includes a lighthearted recap of Stars and Stripes' 16 months in print during WWI.

"Stars and Stripes is hailed down with this issue. Yanks' own paper was for the enlisted man, first, last, and all the time," was one of several headings on the story.

"The Stars and Stripes is, as far as we know, the only subdivision of the AEF (American Expeditionary Force) that does not claim to have won the war single handed ... but they say we helped a bit," reads the story.

Another story, headlined "Yan Divisions were deciding at war's end," details the major U.S. success during the war.

"Besides actual winning of battles, their participation braced Al-

lied morale greatly. ... At Catigny the first of the American divisions to be so employed was placed at the apex of the deepest and most dangerous of all the salients driven by the Germans into the allied front ..."

"At Belleau Wood and Chateau Thierry, two more American divisions stopped on the most sensitive part of the front another German drive which was sweeping down towards Paris. In the major counter-strike, between Soissons and Chateau Thierry, the American divisions took a part which may in all fairness be determined decisive," the story says.

A lighthearted piece headlined: "Want a wife? Buy some blubber oil" recounts GIs and local women.

"Yanks who have courted the vivacious French mademoiselle in Paris and elsewhere and who have been compelled to ask the skipper for an occasional loan in order to shower liberal gifts of champagne and nougats at the feet of the sweetest girl in the world and all that will turn pink with envy to learn what some of the other members of the AEF are getting away with ..."

"To date 12 doughboys (U.S. soldiers) on the Murman Coast in far off Russia near Archangel have been married, and as far as can be proved they did it by supplying their lady love's sweet tooth with candles and blubber oil," the story reads.



SETH ROBSON/Stars and Stripes

Second ID Museum technician Incha Koslosky holds a copy of the last edition of Stars and Stripes produced during World War I.

In other news, soldiers in Vienna complain of a shortage of golf balls while Pvt. Wendell Cutting, of the American Embarkation Centre Headquarters, reportedly is unconcerned about Parisian girls' inability to buy stockings and the fact that he'd been so busy "helping to whip Germany that he hasn't had time to learn the Shimmy Shiver" dance.

He is more worried about where to put his ninth medal for valor.

Another story talks about U.S. Army units using "that primarily

British invention: the tank," described in the article as a "uncouth contrivance."

There are advertisements for Gillette razor blades and Wrigley's Spearmint chewing gum and the sports pages feature photographs and reports on track and field, swimming, baseball and golf.

The back page of the paper includes a photograph of waving French children with the words "Goodbye, goodbye Messieurs Les Américains."

E-mail SETH ROBSON at: robsonsp@stripes.com

# Lacking citizenship, former refugees lose benefits

BY ROBERT IMRIE  
The Associated Press

WAUSAU, Wis. — Va Choua Vang, who fled Laos after the Vietnam War, couldn't sleep over worry about how he would support his family when the U.S. government stopped sending monthly checks.

"I didn't want to live. I thought about suicide," said Vang, 74, through his son, Chue Neng Vang.

The elder Vang, who doesn't speak English, did not know that the reason his wife stopped receiving the \$1,500 in checks was because they failed to become citizens within seven years of their arrival in America.

A Hmong, Vang felt betrayed. He and other members of the Laotian ethnic minority group fought for the United States in Laos during the war with the promise that America would take care of him, his son said.

"I see my mom and dad crying. I have had to work to help support them," Chue Neng Vang, 21, said in a telephone interview from the family's home in Madison.

The money was Supplemental Security Income, and the Vangs are among more than 1,600 elderly or disabled former refugees or asylum-seekers nationwide who the Social Security Administration says lost the benefit last year for failing to be-



THE CAPITAL TIMES OF MADISON, WIS./AP

Dous Lee, left, and her husband, Va Choua Vang, smile in August after becoming U.S. citizens in Madison, Wis. Federal rules require refugees who came after Aug. 26, 1996, to become U.S. citizens within seven years or lose their benefits.

tance and other help. They intend to reapply for their benefits.

Supplemental Security Income gives money to low-income people who are 65

and older or disabled. Federal rules require refugees who came after Aug. 26, 1996, to become U.S. citizens within seven years or lose their benefits. When that happens, they also lose eligibility for Medicaid, the health insurance program for the poor and elderly.

About 46,000 refugees or asylum-seekers who arrived since 1996 are subject to the citizenship provision, said Karyl Richson, a Social Security spokeswoman.

But becoming a citizen is troubling, at best, for elderly people who speak little or no English, can't drive or write, and are daunted by the complicated citizenship process. Unlike other legal immigrants, refugees and asylum-seekers are not sponsored when they enter the United States. Sponsors agree to take financial responsibility for immigrants until they become citizens.

Becoming a citizen requires passing a test on U.S. civics, history and government. It costs \$470 to submit a citizenship application, a burden for many Hmong, said Yue Lor, the older-adult refugee coordinator for Lutheran Social Services in Appleton.

The loss of SSI benefits — "devastating, 600 per month per person" — is "dreadful, financially and emotionally," Lor said.

Richson said about half who lose benefits get them back by becoming citizens. But they must live in the United States for five years before seeking citizenship, and advocates say they should be given more time to navigate the system.

The Social Security Administration's 2005 budget proposal calls for extending

the deadline by one year, with legislation pending in Congress to extend it by two years.

"Many of these people are totally unfamiliar with the language," said Sen. Herb Kohl, a co-sponsor of the legislation.

"They are unfamiliar with the customs. They are unfamiliar with the enormous process that is involved in becoming a citizen."

About 200,000 Hmong fled Laos for the United States when the communists seized control there in 1975 after the Vietnam War ended. The Vangs arrived in 1997, and more are coming — about 15,000 from a refugee camp in Thailand, with 4,000 of those settling in Wisconsin.

Vang and his wife, Dous Lee, lost their SSI benefits in December, the family said. This year, the citizenship requirement will affect about 7,600 people who receive SSI benefits, among 7 million recipients, Richson said. The agency does not know how many are Hmong, who mostly were self-sufficient farmers in Laos.

Last year, 1,639 former refugees lost SSI benefits for failing to become citizens, including 256 in California, 48 in Minnesota and 25 in Wisconsin — states with the largest Hmong populations, Richson said.

About 640,000 citizenship applications were pending Aug. 31, a backlog due in part to more detailed background checks required after the 2001 terrorist attacks, said Bill Strassberger, a spokesman for the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Service.

An application takes about 14 months to work through the bureaucracy, he said.



## Active-duty lie

**IL** CHICAGO — A police officer was accused of pretending she was on active duty with the Army National Guard so the department would put her on military leave, authorities said.

Police allege that 30-year-old Jacqueline Williams submitted forged U.S. Army documents to the department that said she had been called to duty on July 25.

Police said department inspectors launched an investigation after becoming suspicious of the documents, and Army officials confirmed they were not authentic. The Army also confirmed to police that Williams had not been called to active duty.

Prosecutors have charged Williams with felony theft and forgery, said Pat Camden, a spokesman for the Chicago Police Department. She remained jailed on \$40,000 bond, Camden said.

The department has stripped Williams of her police powers and is moving to fire her.

## Porn offer for troops

**OR** SPRINGFIELD — An adult pornography store here is offering a 10 percent discount on its merchandise for U.S. troops fighting in Iraq. But U.S. government rules ban the possession of pornography by any military members serving in the Middle East. The penalty for violation is at the discretion of the commanding officer but may include extra duty, a cut in pay or restricted movements, said Maj. Elizabeth Robbins at the Pentagon.

## Political sign theft

**VA** CHESAPEAKE — A former Chesapeake mayor candidate was fined \$100 for stealing campaign signs of fellow candidates before the May 4 city election.

Circuit Court Judge John Daffron fined T.J. "Cowboy" Carawan \$50 each on two counts of petty larceny. Carawan, 61, had been convicted of 10 counts of petty larceny in July and fined \$500 in a lower court but appealed. His appeal ended with the lesser fine.

Earlier this year, various political candidates began to notice their signs vanishing. During a search of Carawan's home, police discovered about 35 campaign signs in his trash bin, truck and dog pen.

## A mowing mistake

**OH** PERRYSBURG — It was a clear-cut error: A state worker mowed down 28,000 young trees that had been planted as part of a \$33,000 highway beautification project.

The only thing left behind were signs that read "Do not mow or spray."

"Shame on us. We wasted all that effort," Joe Rutherford, a spokesman with the Ohio Transportation Department, said.

The oaks, ash, birches, maples and sycamores were planted in 2002 and 2003 at the interchange of Interstate 75 and I-475 near this Toledo suburb. The city, county and state paid for the seedlings, and volunteers put in more than 70 hours planting them.

Rutherford said the seedlings, which were no more than 2 feet tall, were cut down earlier this



## AMERICAN ROUNDUP

week. He said that many of the seedlings were dead and that someone got the idea it would be OK to mow them down.

## Lottery winner murdered

**MA** PITTSFIELD — A Pittsfield man was convicted of first-degree murder for the slaying of a 62-year-old hardware store manager whom he targeted for his lottery winnings.

Frank P. LeBeau Jr., 36, was sentenced to life in prison after a Berkshire Superior Court jury found him guilty of killing Robert L. Vincent, a Pittsfield man who had recently won close to \$500 playing Keno.

LeBeau used a metal rod to beat Vincent to death in August 2002 and steal what was left of the victim's winnings, prosecutors said.

The slaying took place in Vincent's apartment. Judge John A. Agostini issued the mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole on the murder conviction, the Berkshire Eagle reported.

## Swamp is swampy again

**CA** ALBANY — The Okefenokee Swamp, so dry only three months ago that cane trails had to be closed, is wetter than it has been in years because of heavy rain from the recent hurricanes.

Hurricanes Bonnie, Frances and Jeanne have dumped 17 to 20 inches



## Happy dance

Jason Stevenson, 3, of Dayton, Nev., dances during the Carson City Library Foundation's sixth annual Oktoberfest fund-raiser at the Pony Express Pavilion at Mills Park in Carson City, Nev.

es of rain since August, forcing wildlife to move to higher ground and giving visitors more to see. Workers are taking advantage of the high water to improve canoe trails. During recent drought years, workers could only trim foliage with chain saws, but now they can float a larger trail-cutting machine into previously inaccessible areas.

## Boy drives 200 miles

**MO** INDEPENDENCE — An 11-year-old boy who told authorities he was upset about being bullied at school took off in the family car on an odyssey that ended more than 200 miles away on the other side of the state.

Sgt. Michael Johnston of the Macon County Sheriff's Department said he got a call from the Calhoun postmaster, who reported that a boy was locked out of his car and wanted to talk.

The relieved parents, who had filed a missing person report in Independence noting that their car and keys were also gone, picked up their son. He was back in school the next day.

## Adopted twins reunited

**AZ** TUCSON — Two families who adopted Chinese children and brought them to separate homes in Arizona and Alabama have discovered that the toddlers are siblings and almost certainly twins.

Three-year-olds XiMei and TaoTao were reunited when TaoTao and his adoptive mother arrived at Tucson International Airport to spend the weekend. XiMei (pronounced shee-may) was adopted by a Tucson couple, and an Alabama family adopted TaoTao.

The two families found each other when Rose Veneklassen and Jutta Walters linked up on a Web site offering support for families who adopted children from China.

As they talked, they realized their children were estimated to be about the same age, were found abandoned the same day, and both had cleft palates. They were both taken to the same orphanage and both were afraid of the dark, according to their adoption profiles.

DNA tests confirmed with 98 percent accuracy that the toddlers share at least one parent, most likely their mother.

## Showdown over bison

**MT** BILLINGS — On a spring day in 1990, there was chaos near the border of Yellowstone National Park.

Bison were running. Hunters were facing off with activists who were trying to keep them from killing the bison. And D.J. Schubert was in the thick of it, leading the protesters.

Cameras captured it all, igniting a public outrage that Schubert believes ultimately led the state to halt bison hunting a year later. Today, the wildlife biologist and his fellow activists promise the same craziness — including more bad publicity for Montana — if the state allows hunting to resume this winter, as planned.

The controversy heats up each winter when the bison leave Yellowstone in search of food. Ranchers in Montana worry the bison will transmit brucellosis, which can cause cattle to abort.



## Sandy surroundings

Brad Goll of Sandscapes based out of Los Osos, Calif., works on a sand sculpture at the 2004 Down East Festival in downtown Rocky Mount, N.C.



## Humorous hound

Michele Carlin, of Ferndale, Mich., holds her dog, Bubbles, after winning the funny costume during the Michigan Humane Society Mutt March at Orion Oaks Park in Orion Township, Mich.



## Look what I got

Jose Carlos Munoz, left, Makala Smith, both 4, Skyla Manning, 3, and Monique Lopez-Flores, 4, watch with wide eyes as Valerie Coomes, aka the "The Balloon Lady," gives Mikala a dog-shaped balloon during their Lincoln Elementary School Head Start class in Corvallis, Ore.





**Three on a ledge** Brigid Lally, 4, of Rochester Hills, Mich., peeks over a stone wall toward her mother who was trying to get a photo of her during The Stonewall Pumpkin Festival at the historical Van Hoesen Farm in Rochester Hills, Mich.



**Dancing queens** The dance group "Too Cute" from the Nebula Dance Company out of Hanover, Pa., performs for the crowd at the 7th annual Women's Show at the York Expo Center in York, Pa.



**Wait up, mommy** Zach Glazier, 3, hustles to catch up to his mom, Ann, while pulling his wagon at The Pumpkin Patch of Albert Lea, Minn.

## City wants beer shrine

**MO** ST. LOUIS — The city is bellu-ying up to the bar in its bid to be the host town of a planned shrine to beer. The Gateway City is among six finalists for the so-called Beer Hall of Fame. The idea for a shrine is being sold by a Maryland-based company. Its vision of the hall of fame includes theme restaurants, a microbrewery, brew pub and what's touted as a beer "education center." Other cities in the running are Milwaukee, Baltimore, Pittsburgh, San Diego and Frankenmuth, Mich.

## Brawl on the bus

**FL** YALAHUA — A woman allegedly choked a 13-year-old girl for fighting with her daughter on a bus. The brawl began when the girls exchanged racial insults on their way home from middle school. Rita Gooden, 38, of Yalaha, near Orlando, was charged with attempted murder. Gooden's 12-year-old daughter is black; the other girl is white.

## Geyser burns hiker

**WY** YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK — A tourist who wandered off a trail broke through fragile ground near a geyser, scalding his legs up to his knees. He received second-degree burns.

The man and a friend were hiking when they decided to leave the boardwalk in the park's Firehole Lake area of Lower Geyser Basin, rangers said. He stepped through the thin layer of earth in thermal areas that covers water near or above the boiling point.

He was pulled from the water by the friend, who drove him to Old Faithful Inn at the park. There, emergency workers stabilized the man and transported him to Old Faithful Clinic. He was flown later to the Idaho hospital.

Rangers reminded visitors for their own safety to stay on designated trails.

## Crane games removed

**MS** JACKSON — Wal-Mart member called for an investigation into how a Muslim organization building a \$22 million mosque acquired property at a bargain price. Councilor Jerry McDermott ordered a hearing into why the city sold the two-acre parcel for \$175,000 to the Islamic Society of Boston, which has been accused of having ties to extremist Muslims. The land was assessed at \$401,000.

## Commandments to stay

**PA** PHILADELPHIA — A plaque of the Ten Commandments that has hung for 86 years on a wall outside the Allegheny County courthouse in Pittsburgh can remain, a federal appeals court ruled. The court upheld a lower court's ruling that the plaque didn't endorse any religion. Americans United for Separation of Church and State sued Allegheny County four years ago on behalf of two county residents who said they were offended by the plaque.

## Joint project considered

**TN** MEMPHIS — The Shelby County school board president asked the separately run city schools to consider jointly building three schools in fast-growing areas. The county schools draw stu-

dents from mostly white, affluent suburbs while the city schools have pupils from the mostly black, poorer inner city. Previous talk about merging the systems has drawn sharp protest.

## Likely nurses shortage

**MI** DETROIT — The state's nursing work force is getting older, a trend that could exacerbate Michigan's shortage of nurses over the next 10 years, according to a survey by the Michigan Center for Nursing. A third of the state's 110,000 active nurses say they plan to retire within a decade. In Michigan, 17 percent of working registered nurses are older than 55, compared with 14 percent in 1992. And 24 percent of working, licensed practical nurses are older than 55, compared with 14 percent in 1992.

## Pumpkin catapult

**WA** BURLINGTON — Want to see a pumpkin hurled more than a half mile? A group of friends who are metal fabricators built a 56-foot-tall wooden catapult for this weekend's Harvest Festival.

Their goal is to break the world record of 1,145 feet for pumpkin-tossing.

"This particular machine was designed not just to beat the world record. We want to decimate it," said Wes Frank, team leader.

Frank believes this year's device, officially called a trebuchet, can throw a pumpkin upward of 3,000 feet.

The group created the monster machine after a crudely built one made from several older trees hurled a pumpkin 500 feet at last year's festival.

This year's machine was cut from two 100-foot Douglas firs.

## Bargain land questioned

**MA** BOSTON — A city council member called for an investigation into how a Muslim organization building a \$22 million mosque acquired property at a bargain price. Councilor Jerry McDermott ordered a hearing into why the city sold the two-acre parcel for \$175,000 to the Islamic Society of Boston, which has been accused of having ties to extremist Muslims. The land was assessed at \$401,000.

## Police: Girl shot mom

**TX** DALLAS — A 12-year-old girl upset about being grounded by her mother fatally shot the woman in the face while she slept, police said.

Elvira Marion Walton, 48, was discovered in her bed by her son. The 10-year-old boy called police around 1 a.m.

"Apparently the motive is because the daughter was upset that the mother disciplined her," police Sgt. Gary Kirkpatrick told The Dallas Morning News.

The girl has been charged with murder. Police found a gun in the house, but investigators did not immediately say whether it was the weapon used in the shooting or who owned it.

An older daughter, Thanica Derrick, said her mother had been having trouble with the girl. Walton had six children and lived in a converted garage used as the family home.

Stories and photos from wire services

## FACES

# Latin singer explores Colombia's dark side

Grammy winner Juanes' new album reflects on his country's guerrilla war

BY ANDREW SELSKY

The Associated Press

BOGOTÁ, Colombia

For a musician with nine Latin Grammys and a new single topping the charts, Juanes is a laid-back guy, with none of a rock star's brashness.

But underneath that mellow exterior is a man on a mission — just listen to his new album.

"Mi Sangre" ("My Blood"), which came out Sept. 28, confronts the suffering and bloodshed in Colombia's protracted guerrilla war.

During a conversation in a Bogotá hotel, Juanes said his nation's dark side must be explored: "Colombia is a country which is suffering, and we must move ahead," the lanky, long-haired singer said. "To make a flowery record would not be the truth."

While conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan grab headlines, Colombia's war kills 3,500 people — mostly civilians — every year.

Another 3,000 Colombians are kidnapped each year. And the conflict is seemingly endless: two Marxist rebel groups, funded by drug trafficking, extortion and kidnapping, have been battling a succession of elected governments for 40 years.

Juanes, a 32-year-old Miami resident, has found a huge international audience with his heartfelt lyrics mixed with flowing guitar riffs. On his previous two albums, he



A Colombian soldier takes a photograph of singer-songwriter Juanes during a concert for wounded soldiers at an army medical battalion in Bogotá, Juanes' new album, which hit stores Sept. 28, confronts the suffering and bloodshed of Colombia's protracted guerrilla war.

sang often of love and betrayal, and a little about the Colombian conflict. Now that ratio has been reversed on his new album, as he hopes for better days for his South American homeland.

"I dream that all the hostages who are held today in the middle of the jungle are free," Juanes sings in "Suenos" ("Dreams").

"I dream that my bleeding people live in peace and this senseless war is over."

Before the album's release, Juanes performed for wounded Colombian soldiers at a Bogotá military hospital. One soldier, who lost an arm in combat, presented Juanes with a clay cup made at the hospital's occupational training program.

"It was a very emotional encounter for me," Juanes said. "I respect and admire them."

Some of his new songs were inspired by tales of soldiers separated from their loved ones while pulling one- or two-year tours of duty from the cold of the Andes Mountains to Colombia's steamy jungles.

"When they're in the field, what keeps them going is their desire to return to their families," Juanes said.

The single "Nada Valgo Sin Tu Amor" ("I'm Worthless Without Your Love"), which was released weeks ahead of

the album and is now the most-played Latin song in the United States, poignantly addresses the theme: "I want to take back all the nights I've lost, to beat back this overpowering fear of death, to be eternal with you."

Juanes, whose given name is Juan Esteban Arístizabal, has come a long way since he trained a heavy metal band called Ekhythmos in his hometown of Medellín in the 1990s.

"I wanted to be the James Hetfield of Medellín," Juanes recalled with a laugh, referring to the lead singer of Metallica, a band he still admires. "But I realized that wasn't me and that I wouldn't get far."

Juanes, who began learning guitar at 5, said he decided when he left Ekhythmos and moved to the United States that he didn't want to copy other bands, no matter how cool they were, but instead to find his own voice.

Unlike fellow Colombian superstar musician Shakira, whose album "Laundry Service" is mostly in English, Juanes said he will stick to Spanish — even if many fans don't always understand the words.

"In London, when I sang 'A Dios Le Pido' ('I Ask God'), some people thought I was saying 'Adios Lepido' ('Goodbye Lepido')," Juanes said with a grin. "But it doesn't matter — even if people don't understand 100 percent of the words, the music still connects."

## Walken at the Chinese Theater

Academy Award-winning actor Christopher Walken has left his hand and foot prints at Hollywood's fabled Grauman's Chinese Theater.

"This is a thrill, a big day for me," Walken said at the ceremony Friday. "I'm not sure how I arrived at this place today, but one sure thing: I've been lucky. Thank you for this day."

Walken, 61, stamped prints of dancing shoes into the cement outside the theater, recalling his childhood training as a dancer.

"These are my favorite shoes," Walken said. Though the dancing shoes were crusted with cement, Walken joked that he might hang them off his car's rearview mirror.

The ceremony coincided with the opening of Walken's latest film, "Around the Bend," about four generations of men in a broken family who reunite.

## Fryor doesn't find animal cruelty funny

Comedian Richard Pryor and former "Friends" star Matthew Perry are adding to the reward for information leading to the arrest of the person who drowned a golden retriever in the surf on the Massachusetts coast.



Walken

The dog, which police said had been tied up, muzzled and stuffed inside a burlap bag, was found on Sept. 21 by a person walking on the beach in Nahant, Mass.

Pryor heard about the incident through a network of fellow animal lovers, said Linda Horsley, a pet sitter from Nahant, who is helping to organize the reward efforts with the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

## Rod Stewart kicks off new tour

Singer Rod Stewart is heading to Harlem's Apollo Theater for a concert to kick off the release of his latest CD, "Stardust ... The Great American Songbook: Volume III."

The invitation-only concert on Oct. 18 will be broadcast live on the Internet and will feature songs from the new album.

His first and second volumes of "The Great American Songbook" — released in 2002 and 2003 — were both Grammy nominees, together selling more than 10 million copies.

Stewart sings duets on the third volume with Dolly Parton and Bette Midler. Eric Clapton accompanies him on one track with his guitar, and Stevie



Stewart

Wonder plays harmonica on another.

"Singing these amazing songs has moved me deeply," Stewart said.

## Indian-born filmmaker wins award

When Indian-born filmmaker Mira Nair heard that she had been selected to receive the Honorary Maverick Award at the Woodstock Film Festival, she felt confused before she felt honored.

"I had to look it up in the dictionary," Nair said, "but I like what I saw."

The Maverick Award is given to an individual whose life and work is based on independent vision and social activism. Past recipients include Woody Harrelson, Tim Robbins, D.A. Pennebaker, Chris Hegedus and Les Blank.

"We are so proud to honor the work of Mira Nair, who fearlessly combines independence and risk-taking with social consciousness and continues the tradition of those who make feelings visible, who make sense out of sensations, who shine light into darkness," said festival director and co-founder Meira Blaustein.

She most recently directed the big-screen adaptation of "Vanity Fair," starring Reese Witherspoon. Her 1988 film, "Salaam Bombay!" was nominated for an Academy Award for best foreign language film. Her other movies include "Mississippi Masala" and "Monsoon Wedding."

Stories and photos from The Associated Press

# Horoscope

The moon resides in Libra, and Mercury, Mars and Jupiter are there, too, not to mention the center of our solar system. Cooperation is essential to feeling good about your various roles in life. No man is an island, but if he were, he would be much happier in a group of islands like the Channel Islands or the Hawaiian Islands. Depend on friends.

**TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (October 12).** This year, you are able to forge ahead with projects and plans. Business associates may initially drag their feet, but any delays are only temporary. If single, you may find love while keeping it, either at the gym or in your neighborhood. Married Libras may face a few bumps in the road, but love and perseverance will win the day.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19).** Love blooms anew, and it's better this time around than you dared to hope. This is your reward for past struggles. The universe is really working in your favor now, even if it's not exactly moving according to your schedule.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20).** Keeping up appearances for the sake of others closes you off to any help or comfort they may have to offer. Be honest with yourself, and you will reap great personal rewards. Sweep things under the carpet, and you'll just get ants.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 21).** Good partners are open and willing to learn. So really listen to what your partner is sharing with you. Don't rely on what you think you hear. That's only half the story. Ask for specifics. Don't miss this opportunity for real intimacy.

**CANCER (June 22-July 22).** Your mood affects everyone around you. Taking good care of yourself is the most selfless and loving act you can do. Feel confident that your loved one is safe. This protects him or her much better than fretting ever will.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22).** You are remarkably resilient. Remember this when the one who loves you the

most risks losing you by telling you the truth. Sometimes, the things that are most important to hear are also the most painful.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).** You're one of the most independent signs in the zodiac, but are you willing to give up a little bit of your freedom for the sake of love? Be sure you and your mate are in accord over how much space each of you needs.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23).** Someone — perhaps a child, parent or friend — may be pulling away from you an act of kindness. It's not because that person doesn't love you but because that person loves you so much, he or she is afraid of overpowering you.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21).** Rather than attempting to make your loved one feel jealous, try a more honest approach, and admit that you need some assurances that he or she still finds you desirable. It takes maturity and self-confidence for you to pull this off.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21).** The universe cannot say no to you. It can only limit how much it says yes. The question is, how far do you really want to go? Getting what you want out of life requires a great deal of personal courage, stamina and vision.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19).** You may find yourself in a moral dilemma. If you see an injustice in the workplace or on the street, are you obligated to take a stand against it? There's a fine line between protecting yourself and serving your own interests.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18).** You're an agent of change, which is why you always find yourself in the midst of conflict. Doing good in the world is bound to sometimes cause personal discomfort. If it were easy, more people would do it.

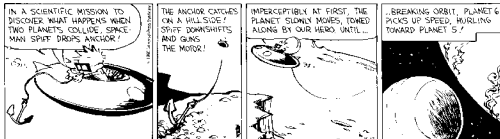
**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20).** Be prepared for delays, particularly regarding money. The check could be lost in the mail, or it may bounce, so be sure it clears the bank before paying your bills with it. But don't worry. Someone's looking out for you.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



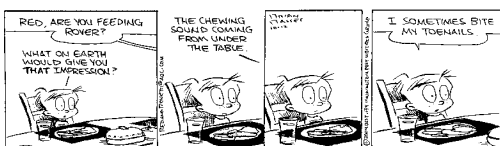
Hi and Lois



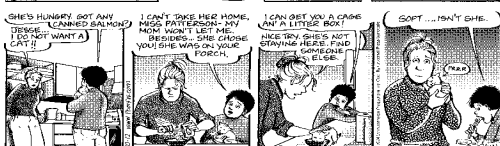
Beetle Bailey



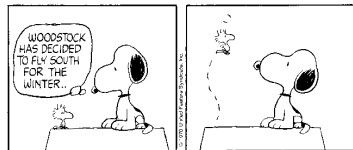
Red and Rover



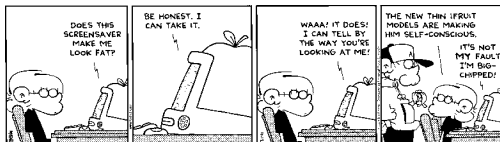
Better or Worse



## Peanuts



Fotrot



B.C.



Baby Blues



Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



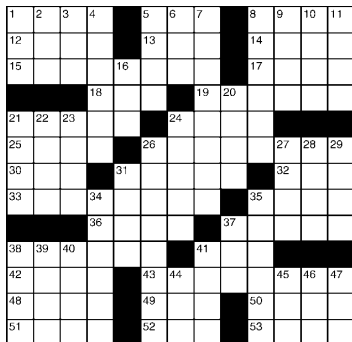
Hagar



Garfield



## Eugene Sheffer Crossword



## Across

- 1 Aiken of "American Idol"  
8 Vossesses  
12 Peps rival  
13 With 35-Across, thieves' thwarter  
14 Maleficence  
15 Frightened mildly  
17 Wedding shower?  
18 Youngster  
19 A natural in Vegas  
21 Curtain material  
24 Read cursorily  
25 Reed instrument  
26 Carbohydrates  
30 Orator's asset  
31 Democles' worry

## Down

- 12 Narrative  
26 Sugar apple  
27 Get wind of  
28 Exile isle  
29 Dispatch a dragon  
31 Bedazzle  
34 "Pulp Fiction" actor  
35 One who earns pin money?  
37 Supporting Slope transport  
38 Meditation exercise  
40 Major defeat  
41 Post-WWII alliance  
44 Pitch  
45 George's brother  
46 Pinch  
47 Comprehend

## Answer to Previous Puzzle



## 10-12

## CRYPTOQUIP

OM O SPV RBUCJ JWL  
NPKLNPHH UMMOSOPH  
DPXL P NHYVXLB, OK JWPJ

YDROBOSPH LCOXLVSL?  
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: THE MONARCH MAKES UP SO MANY UNTRUE TALES, PEOPLE ARE CALLING HIM THE LYIN' KING.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals L



# Submission not always best move

**Dear Abby:** Your advice to "Bound and Gagged in Pennsylvania" would have been considered correct in the past. As a retired police captain, I would have given similar advice years ago. However, today, with information gained primarily from carjackings, as well as situations like the armed robbery described in your column, advice has changed.

Too often, victims who permit themselves to be tied up or abducted are assaulted or killed. Every case is different, but perhaps the woman could have taken the opportunity when the girl struck out to attempt an escape or to raise an alarm. You have to play any incident as you see it, but we no longer advise people to just give in.

— Bill P. in Minnesota  
**Dear Bill P.:** Thank you for writing. A number of readers took exception to my answer, and their opinions deserve to be aired. Read on:

**Dear Abby:** As a former police officer, I feel you did a disservice in judging the young robbery victim's reaction to the threat as wrong. It seems clear to me that she was acting on her strong instincts of self-preservation. I would be loath to characterize her response as improper. In fact, I think she displayed tremendous courage.

That robber had given neither woman any reason to trust him. There have been numerous instances in which victims were bound and gagged prior to being shot in the back of the head, execution-style, for no other reason than to prevent witnesses.

I would never suggest that anyone fight an armed attacker over mere money. However, when the attacker demands that you trust him with your bound-and-gagged life, I'd say the decision to fight or submit must be left with the person threatened.

— Stephanie M. Bremen, Ohio



Dear Abby

# Mom-in-law wearing out welcome

**Dear Annie:** A few years ago, I asked my mother-in-law to come live with my husband and me in order to help care for my children. Mom had a dead-end job and shared a room at a boarding house. Day-care costs were expensive, and I offered to pay my mother-in-law a small amount each month to watch the kids. I figured it would be a win-win situation.

I was wrong. As time went on, I grew to dislike having my mother-in-law here. She oversteps her boundaries when it comes to my kids, and we don't get along at all. I'd like to ask her to leave, but my husband is furious that I would consider it.

This whole situation has made me depressed. My kids will be old enough to watch themselves in a year, and I can't keep paying Mom for nothing. Mom and I fight constantly. She thinks this is her house, her husband and her kids. I want my home and family back.

Do you think it's wrong of me to

Annie's Mailbox



ask her to leave?

— Wilted Lily  
**Dear Lily:** It's perfectly understandable that you want to regain your authority as the "woman of the house." First, have a talk with your husband. If his mother is able-bodied, there is no reason he should place her happiness above yours. Explain that the situation makes you depressed and you are worried about the long-term effect on your marriage. He needs to support your decision. You both can help Mom search for another job and an appropriate place to live, and even contribute toward her rent.

Then both of you need to talk to Mom. Tell her you love her and are willing to help financially, but soon the children will no longer need the extra care and you are afraid the circumstances will destroy the close bond you are trying to preserve.

**Dear Stephanie:** I bow to your expertise. You have witnessed violence and its aftermath more than I.

**Dear Abby:** Remember Flight 93 on 9/11? If the passengers on that plane had taken your advice, the plane would have either crashed into the White House or the Capitol. And remember the shoe bomber? If those passengers had taken your advice, they all would have died. Remember the advice they used to give to women who were about to be raped? "Don't fight back; you might get hurt." Wrong! You usually get hurt anyway, often killed after being tortured.

— Bill M., Garrison, Mont.  
**Dear Bill M.:** In the cases you have cited, the choice was clear-cut — fight or die. Not every situation is this way. How does one know when to take the risk?

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uxpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

**Dear Annie:** I am engaged to "Tim," a wonderful man, and I soon will be visiting his parents for the first time. However, I am more apprehensive than I should be due to the fact that Tim has a 16-year-old mentally disabled brother, "Burt."

I am not prejudiced in any way against the mentally disabled, but I have absolutely no experience in that area and have no idea how to act around Burt. I don't want to treat Burt like a child, or do anything inappropriate. But I don't know what the best approach is.

— Uncomfortable in New York  
**Dear N.Y.:** Being "mentally disabled" covers a lot of ground, and there is no way for us to know how capable Burt is. But you already have an expert nearby — Tim.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to [anniesmailbox@comcast.net](mailto:anniesmailbox@comcast.net), or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate

# JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Mike Argiron

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

**DYNOS**

**SABIN**

**REPTIL**

**SEXOUD**

www.jumble.com

Now arrange the circled letters to form the precise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer: **PECAN GAMUT ALIGHT POPLIN**

Yesterday's Jumbles: **PECAN GAMUT ALIGHT POPLIN**

Answer: When the recruit was assigned a top bunk he was — "UP" ALL NIGHT

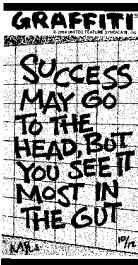


WHAT HE DID AT THE LONDON CASINO.

# Family Circus



"I'll stop being naughty, but I don't know what defiant is."

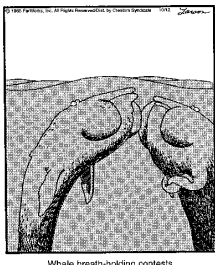


Domis the Menace



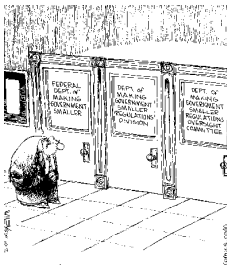
© Gary Larson

The Far Side



Whale breath-holding contests

Non Sequitur





# No. 2 Oklahoma gains ground on No. 1 USC

BY RALPH D. RUSSO

The Associated Press

The gap between No. 1 USC and No. 2 Oklahoma is smaller than it's been all season.

The Sooners' 12-0 shutout of Texas and Southern California's close call against California persuaded some voters in The Associated Press Top 25 released Sunday to change their first-place vote.

USC received 41 first-place votes, a season low, and 1,601 points in the media voting. Oklahoma got a season-high 23 first-place votes and 1,582 points, leaving the Sooners 19th behind the Trojans with the Bowl Championship Series standings just a week from their 2004 debut.

The BCS will release its newly formulated standings on Oct. 18.

The AP poll will count for one-third of a team's BCS points this year. The ESPN/USA Today coaches poll will also count for a third and a compilation of computer rankings will make up the remaining one-third.

In the latest coaches poll, USC is No. 1, followed by Oklahoma, Miami, Auburn and Purdue.

USC and Oklahoma have been 1-2 in the AP and coaches polls since the preseason, but before the Trojans' 23-17 victory over Cal on Saturday the points differential between the teams was more than double what it is now.

Voters may have been impressed by the performance of Sooners freshman running back Adrian Peterson, who proved himself

a more-than-capable complement to Heisman Trophy winning quarterback Jason White by rushing for 225 yards against the Longhorns.

"We expected to be able to run the football, and it wasn't just Adrian," Stoops said. "I think our offensive line and the way they played are all part of running the ball. We're improving with it."

Georgia had been No. 3, but a 19-14 loss at home to Tennessee on Saturday dropped the Bulldogs to No. 12.

Idle Miami moved up one spot to No. 3. No. 4 Auburn received the remaining first-place vote and Purdue moved up four spots to No. 5.

Auburn's ranking is the Tigers best since Nov. 6, 1994. Purdue hasn't been ranked this high in 25 years. On Sept. 10,

1979, the Boilermakers were ranked fifth in the country.

Unbeaten Virginia is No. 6 and No. 7 is Florida State. The Cavaliers and Seminoles will play in Tallahassee on Saturday.

Cal slipped one spot to No. 8. Texas dropped four spots to No. 9, and undefeated Wisconsin is 10th.

The second 10 starts with No. 11 Utah, followed by Georgia, Tennessee, Michigan and No. 15 Arizona State. The unbeaten Sun Devils get the chance to break USC's 14-game winning streak on Saturday in Las Vegas.

"Every weekend we know we've got that bulls-eye on our back," USC defensive end Sham Cody said after Saturday's win. "It's awesome, it's fun. Every team is going to get after you and it makes you focus on every play."



Georgia's Sean Bailey reacts after the final play in the Bulldogs' 19-14 loss to Tennessee on Saturday.

## Vols back in charge in SEC East

BY PAUL NEWBERRY

The Associated Press

ATHENS, Ga. — Just like that, Tennessee became the team to beat in the Southeastern Conference East.

Just like that, Georgia became the team that needs some help just to get another shot at the league championship.

The Volunteers showed just how quickly things can change in the SEC, bouncing back from a 24-point home loss to Auburn with a 19-14 upset on tumbled Georgia.

The Bulldogs (4-1, 2-1) unbent nine spots to No. 12 in The Associated Press rankings on Sunday. More devastating, they squandered a chance to put themselves in a commanding position for a third straight trip to Atlanta for the SEC championship game.

"It's going to be very difficult for us," coach Mark Richt said. "We've just got to control what we can control."

Tennessee (4-1, 2-1), which moved up four places to No. 13 nationally, clearly has the easiest road to Atlanta. The Vols already have played their three toughest SEC games, with wins over No. 22 Florida and Georgia sandwiched around the 34-10 loss to Auburn. Their last five conference games are against unranked teams with a combined record of 13-15, beginning next Saturday with a trip to Mississippi.

Georgia is tied with Tennessee for first in the SEC East, but the Bulldogs still have to play perennial nemesis Florida — they have lost to the Gators 13 of the past 14 years — and make a trip to Auburn late in the season.

Another factor working against the Bulldogs: Tennessee holds the tiebreaker edge with its victory between the hedges.

Other than Georgia, Florida has a relatively easy conference schedule remaining. But the Gators put themselves in a deep hole with their second conference loss — a 24-21 setback to LSU, which scored the winning touchdown with 27 seconds remaining.

Now, everyone is chasing Tennessee, which came into Sanford Stadium as a 12½-point underdog.

"There were not a lot of people who gave us much of a chance except the coaches and the kids who got on that airplane to come down here," coach Phillip Fulmer said.

The Volunteers self-destructed against Auburn, turning the ball over six times. Freshman quarterback Erik Ange accounted for five of those turnovers — four interceptions and a fumble — but he didn't have any against the Bulldogs.

"We are a good football team," Fulmer said. "We are a lot better when we don't help other people with turnovers."

Meanwhile, the league's lowest-ranked pass defense kept Georgia from moving the ball through the air. The Vols caused plenty of confusion with their zone coverages, and the front line kept the heat on quarterback David Greene.

The Bulldogs hardly looked like the same team as the previous week, when they were close to perfection in a 45-16 rout of LSU.

Greene followed up a five-touchdown performance by completing just 15 of 34 for 163 yards. It didn't help that he was sacked five times.

"The SEC is tough," receiver Fred Gibson said. "You never know."

Richt was baffled by his team's performance. For example, on Tennessee's opening possession, the Bulldogs blew a pair of simple coverages that allowed the Vols to complete a 39-yard pass on third-and-11 and a 22-yard touchdown on third-and-9.

"We made mistakes that we had not made all year," Richt said. "We just blew it."

Georgia may have blown its chance to contend for a national championship, but that's a minor consideration at this point. Richt won't look past the next game against lowly Vanderbilt.

"We can't even get out of the East right now," he said. "We're going to be fighting like mad just to beat Vanderbilt."

## Nebraska moving on after lopsided defeat

BY ERIC OLSON

The Associated Press

LINCOLN, Neb. — One day after the most lopsided loss in the 115 years of Nebraska football, the coaching staff told the Cornhuskers to forget about it.

The fans, to be sure, won't soon forget Saturday's 70-10 flogging at the hands of Texas Tech.

But the players must, because wallowing in the past won't help the players get ready for this week's game against Baylor, according to defensive coordinator Kevin Cosgrove.

"The one thing you have to do is put it behind you. There's nothing you can do about it," Cosgrove said Sunday. "The coaches hurt, the players hurt, the fans hurt, you guys [the media] hurt. We all hurt. But we also know what we can do. Just correct what was wrong, show them why things happened and move on."

What happened was dizzying. The Cornhuskers went into Lubbock, Texas, with a defense that was ranked No. 1 in the Big 12 and No. 5 in the nation.

But Tech quarterback Sonny Cumbie threw for 436 yards and five touchdowns, and the Red Raiders scored the final 49 points after Nebraska had pulled within 21-10 in the third quarter.

Tech's offense benefited from having a great field of vision. The Huskers (3-2, 1-1 Big 12) had seven turnovers in the game, including six in the second half.

Joe Dailey threw his 12th interception of the season in the first half, and backup Beau Davis threw four of the second half. Tech's interceptions in five games are the most Nebraska has thrown since the 1972 team threw 13 in 12 games.

Nebraska's total of 23 turnovers is one off last year's 13-game total.

Defensively, Nebraska missed a lot of tackles, failed to get enough pressure on Cumbie and had too many soft spots in its zone coverages.

"It's obvious from watching the tape what went wrong," Cosgrove said. "Corrections need to be made, and we have to make sure it doesn't happen again. It was a great learning experience for all of us."

Cosgrove didn't think his players gave up as the score began to spiral out of control.

"I can't say we had bad effort," he said. "We had guys playing with effort. Could we have played better? Absolutely."

Defensive back Titus Adams said he did not think Tech deliberately ran up the score to embarrass Nebraska.

"They were just playing the game. It's our job to stop them," Adams said.

Adams doesn't see any sign that the loss might splinter the team and said he and his teammates heed the coaches' instructions to learn from the experience and move on.

"If you dwell on a game like that, it can be devastating to the team and program because it would be hard to play that next game," he said. "We've got a lot of football left."

Nebraska's fans — and former players — took the loss hard.

Rob Zatechka, who played on the famed "Pipeline" offensive line that paved the way to Nebraska's 1994 national championship, believes many things about the program have changed.

"There was always a sense of determination and pride within that program that has been lost," Zatechka said. "In the past, getting blown out meant that Oklahoma put up 40 points on us."

"Now, it's a mid-tier Big 12 South team putting 70 on you. There is a sense of urgency that needs to be present down in Lincoln. Just as an observer, I don't see it."

Grady Hansen feels no ill will toward Tech coach Mike Leach for running up the score.

"The last time we played down here we beat 'em 56-3," Hansen said. "What goes around comes around."

Longtime booster Irv Veltzer of Omaha says he remains optimistic that the system of new coach Bill Callahan will work — once the right players are recruited across the board.

"I'm disappointed, but I was at Oklahoma when we lost 47-0 [in 1968], and we bounced back from that and won a national championship two years later," Veltzer said. "We'll bounce back this time, too."

# Nemechek beats title contenders

## Busch pads lead in chase to 29 over Earnhardt

BY MIKE HARRIS  
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Kan. — As much as Joe Nemechek would like to be part of NASCAR's new championship playoff, he's happy just beating the title contenders.

Nemechek won the Banquet 400 on Sunday to complete a weekend sweep at Kansas Speedway, stealing the spotlight from series leader Kurt Busch and the other drivers in the Chase for the Nextel Cup championship.

"It's kind of cool to see guys outside the top 10 up there leading laps and battling," Nemechek said. "We're giving them everything we can throw at them. The guys in the championship chase have more to lose than we do. We're on the offense, not on defense."

Nemechek's margin was almost as close as his half-car-length victory over Greg Biffle in the Busch Series event Saturday. Racing side-by-side and bumping Ricky Rudd once with a lap to go, Nemechek took control and beat Rudd to the finish by 0.081 seconds — about 1/4 car-lengths.

Busch, who gained the series lead when Dale Earnhardt Jr. was dented 25 points last week for cursing during a live TV interview in Victory Lane at Talladega, increased his lead from 12 to 29 points with a third-place finish. Earnhardt finished ninth.



Joe Nemechek crosses the finish line ahead of Ricky Rudd to win the Banquet 400 at Kansas Speedway.

Busch wasn't surprised that the top three finishers Sunday were not among the drivers in the championship battle.

"There's a competitive field over 40 cars that can win and it's no different if the guys are locked in (to the championship) or not," Busch said. "You've got to compete against them."

Nemechek did a backward victory lap on the 1 1/2-mile oval to honor the memory of his brother, John, killed in a truck race in Homestead, Fla., in 1997. He was relieved to win after nearly getting too conservative at the end.

"There at the end I was trying to save gas, and here comes Ricky Rudd out of nowhere," Nemechek said. "I was like, 'Holy

Moley! I had to get back on it. He got behind me one time, but I wasn't going to let it happen."

Rudd drove onto the apron and nearly spun out on the late restart before breaking out of the pack to chase down Nemechek.

"I caught him somehow and I got to his door, but my car was slipping and I had to ease off so I didn't take us both out," Rudd said.

Nemechek was among 10 drivers who stayed on the track when cars ahead of them pitted during a caution period late in the race, moving him from 14th to fourth as leaders Biffle and Jeremy Mayfield went to the pits.

"It worked out just perfect for us," Nemechek said.

After another yellow flag on the

ensuing restart left him in the same spot, Nemechek, who started from the pole for the second straight event, raced to the front once the green flag waved for lap 218 of the 267-lap event.

He passed Rudd and Jamie McMurray and duced with Elliott Sadler before grabbing the lead on lap 231, staying out front the rest of the way for his fourth career victory and first since May 2003 at Richmond. He is the first driver other than a title contender to win since the championship began last month at New Hampshire.

Battle finished third Sunday, followed by Sadler, Mayfield, Busch, McMurray and Dale Jarrett. Among that group, only Sadler, Mayfield and Busch are title contenders.

# Stolz plays like vet in Las Vegas

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — When it counted most, Andre Stolz played like a veteran instead of a struggling rookie, shooting a 5-under 67 Sunday to win the Michelin Championship at Las Vegas and shoot over Tom Lehman and two others.

Stolz two-putted from 45 feet on the final hole to win for the first time on the PGA Tour and turn what had been a dismal season into a triumph.

The Australian, who had made only \$88,373 a year, made a crucial birdie putt on the 16th hole and then parred the last two holes to collect the \$720,000 winner's check and gain a tour exemption for the next two years.

Tag Ridings, who tied the course record with a final-round 61, tied for second along with Lehman (69) and Harrison Frazier (67).

Stolz, who missed 10 of 11 cuts at one point this season, including eight in a row, began the day a stroke on the lead held by Lehman and took it over himself with a 32 on the front nine.

Dicky Pride, who needed to win to keep his tour card next year, finished two strokes back after a 69. Pride hit it into the rocks on the final hole for a bogey that ruined his chances.

## Neumann holds off Park

NORTH AUGUSTA, S.C. — Liselotte Neumann won her first LPGA Tour title in six years, holding off a late charge by Grace Park for a three-stroke victory in the LPGA Asahi Ryokuten International Championship.

Neumann, the 1988 U.S. Women's Open champion, closed with a final-round 68 for a 15-under 273 total, for her first victory since the Chick-fil-A Charity Championship in 1998.

Park, who also shot 68, twice cut Neumann's four-shot lead to a stroke on the back nine. But each time, Neumann held off the challenge.

Laura Davies (70), Kris Tschetter (70) and Silvia Cavalleri (76) tied for third at 10 under.

## Nelson wins in playoff

SPRING, Texas — Larry Nelson rallied from far off the lead and made a 5-foot birdie putt on the first playoff hole to beat Hale Irwin and win the Administaff Small Business Classic.

Nelson, who started the final round seven shots back, closed with an 8-under 64 and tied Irwin (67) at 14-under 202, winning his second senior event of the year after a win overall.

Peter Jacobson just missed getting into the playoff. The U.S. Senior Open champion made bogey at the 18th after driving into the water. He finished with a 71 and tied second-round leader Wayne Levi (72) at 203.

Morris Hatalsky (68), Jim Dent (69) and Jim Thorpe (69) finished at 205.

# Two die in accident at pitcher's home

The Associated Press

PUERTO RICO, Panama — New York Yankees reliever Mariano Rivera flew home to comfort relatives Monday after two family members were electrocuted in his pool. The player's agent said Rivera planned to be back in New York when the Yankees open their playoff series Wednesday in Boston.

"I have to comply with my family obligations, and I will return to New York on Tuesday," he told the newspaper La Prensa upon arriving in Panama late Sunday.

Rivera learned of the deaths while celebrating with his teammates in the clubhouse after the Yankees beat the Minnesota Twins 6-5 on Saturday to reach the AL championship series, with Rivera getting the victory.

Victor David Aro, a cousin of Rivera's wife, Clara, was killed along with his 14-year-old son on Saturday while cleaning the pool at the pitcher's home in this fishing town 40 miles west of Panama City, police and relatives said.

Rivera's cousin, Irma Rivera, told The Associated Press that the teenager, also named Victor David Aro, apparently touched an electrical wire while tending to the pool and his father died trying to save him.

## Sports briefs

### Henin-Hardenne ends season

BRUSSELS, Belgium — Olympic champion Justine Henin-Hardenne ended her season Monday, saying she was exhausted after two years of relentless effort to become the WTA Tour's top-ranked player.

She said an energy-sapping virus that has weakened her since April was a symptom of a more general malaise caused by a pursuit of titles and the top ranking.

"The last two years, I made a lot of effort to get where I am now, to become the No. 1, to win Grand Slams and the Olympics," she said on her Web site. "It's very logical and understandable that I'm this tired. It's high time I get some rest now."

She added: "The will is still there," she said, adding she hopes a good start next season will return her to the top ranking.

Another former No. 1 player, Belgian countrywoman Kim Clijsters, also has ended her season. Clijsters injured her left wrist again two weeks ago and will rest for at least six weeks.

### Australia skips tourney

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — Olympic field hockey champion Australia pulled out of a December tournament in Pakistan because of security fears.

The decision Monday came after a suicide bombing at a mosque killed four people in Lahore, where the Champions Trophy will be held Dec. 4-12. The attack was the first in this month against a religious target in eastern Punjab province in violence between Shiite and Sunni Muslims.

Australia has pulled out despite the fact that we have given the security assurances of all the participating teams," Musarratullah Khan, secretary of the Pakistan Hockey Federation, told The Associated Press.

Traditionally, the top six countries in the Olympics take part in the Champions Trophy. The Netherlands, Germany, Spain and New Zealand have confirmed they will participate, Khan said. India, seventh in the Athens Games, will replace Australia.

### Injured Mauresmo with draws

MOSCOW — Top-ranked Amelie Mauresmo of France with drew from the Kremlin Cup on

Monday, a day after a thigh injury forced her to quit during a final in Germany against No. 2 Lindsay Davenport.

Davenport trails the Frenchwoman by 15 points in the WTA Tour rankings. Davenport has a first-round bye in Moscow and a second-round victory would push her to No. 1 next week.

Mauresmo aggravated a thigh injury in the Porsche Grand Prix on Sunday. Davenport won the first set 6-2 before Mauresmo stopped because her heavily taped left leg hampered her movement.

In a men's match in the Kremlin Cup, top-seeded Marat Safin survived two match points to beat Max Mirnyi of Belarus 6-7 (10-8), 7-6 (7-5), 7-6 (7-1) to reach the second round. Safin saved two match points in the 10th game of the final set, avoiding a fifth first-round exit in nine appearances in the Moscow event.

### Canas wins in CA event

VIENNA, Austria — Sixth-seeded Guillermo Canas of Argentina beat Australian wild card John Knowle 6-2, 6-4 on Monday to highlight the first day of play in the CA Trophy tournament.

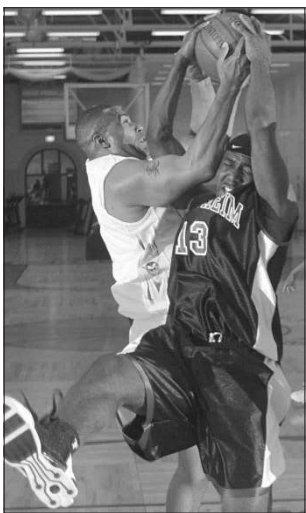
Canas won the Heineken Open in Shanghai eight days ago for his third title this year.



## Court back in session

Mannheim's Alki Henry, far right, and Darmstadt's Donnell Warren battle for a rebound during the championship game of a Columbus Day weekend preseason basketball tournament in Darmstadt, Germany, on Monday. Darmstadt defeated Mannheim 79-73. Terrance Smith of Darmstadt was selected most valuable player and was joined by teammates Fred Waddington and Roosevelt Collier and Mannheim's Eli Perry and Will Tompkins on the all-tournament team.

In the women's tournament, Mannheim beat Heidelberg 70-57 behind tournament MVP Precious Johnson. She was joined on the all-tournament team by teammates Laura Morant and Cathy Holmes, along with Tiffany Collins and Nina Beaman of Heidelberg.



PHOTOS BY RAYMOND T. CONWAY  
Stars and Stripes

Left: Mannheim's Marcus Baker shoots while being guarded by Darmstadt's Jacob Tidale during Monday's championship game in Darmstadt, Germany.

## Less Shaq equals more in debut

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN  
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Time for a new nickname for Shaquille O'Neal, perhaps something along the lines of "The Big Lightweight." A slimmer, swifter O'Neal made his debut in a Miami Heat uniform Sunday night, looking surprisingly nimble and quick for such an early point in the preseason as he got the better of opposing centers Yao Ming and Dikembe Mutombo in an 85-75 loss to the Houston Rockets.

"It felt kind of different, but it's something I'll quickly get adjusted to," O'Neal said. "Change is always good, and it's something I'm used to. If I was born in L.A., raised in L.A. and never left L.A., I would probably be a little sick, but it's just another day at the office for Mr. O'Neal."

That office was far from full, with large swaths of empty seats dotting both end zones of the Toyota Center. Maybe Shaq isn't the draw he was with the Los Angeles Lakers, but the ticket-buying public might start flocking fairly soon once word gets out that O'Neal isn't the man he was a year ago.

He's leaner despite being hungrier. "He looks real skinny," said Yao Ming, who was outplayed once again by the center who knocked him out of the playoffs last spring. "He's much better.

He runs better and he jumps better. He's tougher this year because he's in such great shape right now."

The Heat are listing O'Neal at 325 pounds, about 15 pounds lighter than what he registered on the scales when training camp began. But from the looks of how he ran the court Sunday night, from determining rotating on defense to maneuvering in the paint on offense, 325 might actually be accurate.

O'Neal had 17 points and seven rebounds, dominating Yao and Dikembe Mutombo in such a manner to validate the hopes of Miami fans whose excitement level has gone off the charts thanks to the team's huge offseason addition.

"It went cool," O'Neal said. "I was in cruise mode, trying to get used to the system and players. I'm going to slowly pick it up here."

Wearing a new number, 32 instead of 34, and clad in black and red rather than purple and gold, O'Neal gave a hearty handshake to Yao and waved to Yao's partner before the opening tipoff. He then recovered from a shaky start — getting scored on by Yao and losing the ball the first time he touched it on offense — to make three consecutive shots.

One of O'Neal's best moves came in the second quarter when he deftly ducked under Yao's out-



Miami Heat's Shaquille O'Neal adjusts his uniform before the start of a preseason game against the Houston Rockets on Sunday.

stretched arm to gently bounce a shot off the backboard. The ball rolled around the rim and off, but O'Neal's timing was perfect as he was right there to tap it back in.

O'Neal, who watched the entire fourth quarter from the bench, finished 8-for-14 from the field and 1-for-3 from the line, badly missing a pair of foul shots in the third quarter as the ball came off his hand with a sidespin.

Yao had 10 points and five rebounds for Houston, and Tracy McGrady scored 10 points in 18 minutes in his Rockets debut.

## Old-school Cardinals have plenty to teach rest of major leagues

That was indeed a handshake line you saw moments after the St. Louis Cardinals beat the Dodgers in Los Angeles, three games to one, to settle half the bracket for the National League Championship Series.

Just don't get used to it. Respect is hard to come by in baseball around playoff time. The last time anybody can remember two teams shaking hands at the end of a playoff series was 1991, after the closest World Series ever, and you definitely won't see the Yankees-Red Sox series end that way in a week or so. Then again, few teams merit respect the way the Cardinals do.

Their opening-day payroll of \$75.6 million ranked 11th out of 30 major-league teams, but nobody got more professionalism for the buck. The Cards' lineup is loaded top to bottom with patient, lethal hitters, their pitchers contest every inch of the plate, and they put out a Gold Glove at just about every position. The guy who calls the shots day-to-day, Tony LaRussa, is a lawyer by training, once known as the "Thinking Man's Manager" and "Baseball's Answer Man" because he was using computers long before they fit on a lap. They even celebrate with restraint.

So maybe it wasn't a coincidence that Dodgers manager Jim Tracy described the rare handshake exchange Sunday night as, "a professional show of class between two very classy organizations."

"To play this series the way it was played with the intensity it was played," Tracy added, "it said a lot."

It would have said just as much, however, if the Dodgers carried a white flag and walked onto the field with them. That's how soundly the Cardinals handled Los Angeles throughout. Their only hiccup came in Game 4, when Los Angeles starter Jose Lima threw a complete-game shutout by nubbling at the corners, and the St. Louis hitters uncharacteristically obliged by hitting at too many bad pitches.

That trend ended early in the clinching game. Albert Pujols, who had only one RBI in the series up to that point, climbed out of a 0-2 hole against Odalis Perez and drew a walk in the first inning.

Then Scott Rolen, who was hitless in the NLDS, wrangled another walk after Tracy just missed with balls three and four.

Their patience wasn't rewarded immediately, but the Cardinals eventually wore Perez down. Then, in the fourth, Pujols maneuvered reliever Wilson Alvarez into a 3-1 count and smacked the unit-dummy into the first base for a three-run homer that sealed the Dodgers' fate.

"Albert is a tremendous player,



he does amazing things out there," said St. Louis starter and winner Jeff Suppan, who is a pretty good story himself. "With him and everyone else, it's the best team I've been on."

On paper, the Yankees and Red Sox both look a little better — and much flashier — but not necessarily smarter. They spent more at the start of the season — Boston by \$50 million and New York by more than \$100 million — they keep lush funds for midseason reinforcements and still have enough left over to bury their mistakes. That lavish lifestyle won't fly in St. Louis.

General manager Walt Jocketty makes up some of the deficit simply by being shrewd. In his first season, he hired Joe Torre, who went on to become the best manager in baseball, but replaced him with LaRussa, the only guy who might be his equal. Two years later, he stood up Mark McGwire from Oakland for three guys that even the die-hard fans in St. Louis couldn't pick out of a police lineup.

*On paper, the Yankees and Red Sox both look a little better — and much flashier — but not necessarily smarter.*

Jocketty needed only one look at Pujols in the Triple-A playoffs in 2000 to know that he was the youngest star who'd spent most of the season playing in Class A was ready for the bigs. In the four years since, Pujols has produced numbers that only Joe DiMaggio and Ted Williams battered at the same stage of their careers. The scary thing is that Pujols had as much competition from teammates

Rolen and Jim Edmonds for MVP honors as he did from the rest of the Cardinals.

As a result, St. Louis won a major league-leading 105 games and its first playoff series with very little fuss. It's the old-school team, assembled the old-fashioned way, versatile and intelligent enough to play small ball, long ball or any kind of ball the situation demands. That's what the Dodgers recognized, for at least this one night, by extending their hands in defeat.

With a few more arms in the rotation and Rolen, among others, dealing with knocks, the Cardinals may not have it as easy against the winner of the Houston-Atlanta draw, but whenever emerges from the AL side of the bracket. But Tracy wouldn't be the least bit surprised if St. Louis did.

"They," he said, with typical understatement, "have a lot of weapons."

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# Ken Caminiti, 1996 NL MVP, dies at age 41

## Gritty third baseman's career tarnished by steroids, drug use

BY BEN WALKER

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — On the field, Ken Caminiti's all-out style seemed like he was 41. Off the field is where it got him in trouble.

The 1996 National League MVP, who later admitted using steroids during his major league career, died Sunday at age 41.

Caminiti died of a heart attack in the Bronx, his agent-lawyer, Rick Licht, said. The city medical examiner's office said an autopsy would be performed Monday, spokeswoman Ellen Borokove said.

"What we all loved about Cammy was his devotion to the game and his desire for the game. But it went into uncontrollable levels with no discipline," said one of his former coaches, Houston manager Phil Garner.

Caminiti's 15-year big league career ended in 2001, five seasons after he led the San Diego Padres to a division title and was a unanimous pick for MVP. But the

three-time All-Star third baseman often was in trouble the last few years.

Just last Tuesday, he admitted in a Houston court that he violated his probation by testing positive for cocaine last month and was sentenced to 180 days in jail.

State District Judge William Harmon gave Caminiti credit for the 189 days he already served in jail and a treatment facility since he was sentenced to three years probation for a cocaine arrest in March 2001.

"This is the largest mistake I've made in my life," Caminiti said when he pleaded guilty in March 2002. "I had a real good thing going for me and I got side-tracked. It doesn't have to be that way. It doesn't have to be drugs. It doesn't have to be alcohol. That part of my life is over."

In May 2002, Caminiti told Sports Illustrated that he used steroids during his MVP season, when he hit a career-high .326 with 40 home runs and 130 RBIs.

He estimated half the players in the big leagues were also using them.

Licht said Caminiti hoped to get back into the game, possibly in a position that would allow him to mentor younger players about avoiding the mistakes he made.

"I'm still in shock," Padres General Manager Kevin Towers said. "He was one of my favorite all-time players."

Caminiti did return to baseball this year, as a spring training instructor with San Diego.

"He didn't look good," Towers said. "The best way to describe him is that he was a warrior in every sense of the word. I can't tell you how many times I remember him hobbling into the manager's office, barely able to walk, and saying, 'Put me in the lineup.'"

Licht said Caminiti was in New York this past weekend to help a friend, but did not go into detail.

"Man, that's just a tough one. I played with him for eight years," Los Angeles Dodgers outfielder

Steve Finley said Sunday night upon learning of Caminiti's death after St. Louis eliminated Los Angeles from the playoffs.

"He was a great player, but he got mixed up in the wrong thing — taking drugs. It's a sad reminder of how bad drugs are and what they can do to your body. It's a loss all of us will feel."

Caminiti batted .272 with 239 homers and 983 RBIs for Houston, San Diego, Texas and Atlanta.

His MVP season came on Aug. 18, 1996, in the oppressive heat of Monterrey, Mexico, as the Padres prepared to face the New York Mets in the final of the first regular-season series played outside the United States and Canada.

Battling dehydration and an upset stomach, Caminiti took two liters of intravenous fluid, then hit two homers and drove in four runs in an 8-0 victory.

"Becky and I are grief-stricken at the premature death of one of the bravest athletes that we have



Ken Caminiti

known," Padres owner John Moores said. "We admired Ken tremendously and remained optimistic that he would conquer the personal challenges that he was dealing with."

Caminiti teamed with Tony Gwynn and Greg Vaughn in the middle of the Padres' 1998 lineup, leading them to the World Series, where they were swept by the New York Yankees.

Associated Press sports writers Bernie Wilson and Joel Anderson contributed to this story.

# Inevitable matchup just what Yankees, Red Sox wanted

BY RONALD BLUM

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — From the instant Aaron Boone's home run cleared the left-field foul ball last October, the New York Yankees and Boston Red Sox have been building on this.

The tug-of-war over Alex Rodriguez, the sniping between the owners, the fight on the field and the posturing off it. If not inevitable, a rematch seemed fated.

And come Tuesday night, the players, the fans and the sponsors get what they want: New York and Boston, fighting for the AL pennant again.

"Clash of the titans for the pennant," Boone said Sunday. "I think a lot of people wanted to see this. I'm looking forward to following it."

The rivalry brings out the best and worst, on the field and off, leaving baseball's biggest spenders fixated on each other above all else. That's why Pedro Martinez proclaimed after losing to New York last month: "Call the Yankees my daddy. I can't find a way to beat them at this point."

Unless they're in the same ballpark, games were only preludes or postscripts this year. New York's 3-1 victory over the Minnesota Twins in the opening round of the playoffs merely teased Boston's three-game sweep of the Anaheim Angels as an appetizer before the meat of the main course.

In the long run, Derek Jeter's flying dive into the stands to grab Tim Lincecum's pop on July 1 and Nomar Garciaparra's no-show that night will be remembered far longer than either first-round series.

"Idiot words are thrilled. They've never had such great p.r.," Boston General Manager Theo Epstein said, playing off his players' nickname for themselves. "Now that it's here, we can admit that if we're able to win a World Series and go through New York along the way, it will mean that much more."

Last fall's seven-game classic reached its fiercest point in Game 3, when Martinez

## ALCS: Who's hot, who's not

The N.Y. Yankees' most productive and least productive hitters in their 3-0 series victory over the Minnesota Twins:



### Hot

	Avg.	HR	RBI	OBP
3B Alex Rodriguez	.421	1	3	.476
LF Hideki Matsui	.412	1	3	.476
SS Derek Jeter	.316	1	4	.350

### Not

	Avg.	HR	RBI	OBP
2B Miguel Cairo	.214	0	0	.313
C Jorge Posada	.222	0	0	.222
DH Ruben Sierra	.167	1	3	.286

The Boston Red Sox's most productive and least productive hitters in their 3-0 series victory over the Anaheim Angels:



### Hot

	Avg.	HR	RBI	OBP
DH David Ortiz	.545	0	4	.688
CF Johnny Damon	.467	0	5	.500
LF Manny Ramirez	.375	1	7	.385

### Not

	Avg.	HR	RBI	OBP
C Jason Varitek	.167	1	2	.333
SS Orlando Cabrera	.154	0	3	.267
2B Mark Bellhorn	.091	0	0	.375

ALCS Game 1: Boston (Schilling 21-6) at New York (Mussina 12-9)  
2 a.m. Wednesday (CET), AFX-Sports

shoved Yankees coach Don Zimmer to the ground and New York relievers crawled in the bullpen with a groundskeeper.

Then came Boone's 11th-inning, Game 7 homer off Tim Lincecum, a drive replayed in New York more often than any sitcom. Boston, which watched Martinez waste a 4-0 lead in the fourth inning of the final game and a 5-2 advantage in the eighth, fired manager Grady Little and replaced him with Terry Francona.

Red Sox fans could only take solace that the Yankees were so spent they lost 4-2 to Florida in the World Series.

Even this year, the Yankees got so juiced up during a three-game sweep of Boston at midseason that they staggered into Shea

Stadium and lost three straight to the cross-town Mets.

Since last fall, Boston added pitchers Curt Schilling and Keith Foulke, then jettisoned Garciaparra at the trade deadline. New York brought in A-Rod, Gary Sheffield and Kevin Brown, among others.

Rodriguez has been at the center. The first spring training meeting of the teams after the AL MVP was traded from Texas to New York was hyped to an absurd level. There were commemorative pins and "Evil Empire" T-shirts being sold that afternoon at City of Palms Park.

When A-Rod went 1-for-17 in a four-game series at Fenway Park, New York fans questioned his fortitude. The

Red Sox started 6-1 against the Yankees for the first time since 1913.

But that was April. In Boston and New York, the important number is 1918 — the last year the Red Sox won the World Series. Boston sold Babe Ruth to the Yankees a year later, and since then New York has 26 World Series titles to zero for Boston.

In July, with the Yankees en route to their seventh straight AL East title, Rodriguez was in the middle of the latest New York-Boston brawl, sparked when A-Rod was hit by Bronson Arroyo's pitch and then cursed at Boston catcher Jason Varitek, who responded by shoving him in the face.

"It just shows you how much both teams were hyped up," Rodriguez said. "You can't really control your emotions."

When A-Rod was dealt to New York in February, Boston owner John Henry said the trade showed baseball needed a salary cap. Yankees owner George Steinbrenner called it "sour grapes" and said Henry resembled the Scarecrow in "The Wizard of Oz." Then, Steinbrenner disparaged Red Sox President Larry Lucchino in Sports Illustrated, saying, "I have nothing against him except I wouldn't want him in my foxhole. ... He's not my kind of guy. Not a good man."

No wonder the players get so fired up. Last year, New York took 10 of 19 regular-season games, then won the series for the pennant. Boston went 11-8 against the Yankees this year by pounding New York's struggling starting pitching, leaving the Red Sox ahead 23-22 the last two years.

"It's one of the most intense series that you could ever put your finger on. I know I'll be keeping an eye on it," said Jeff Weaver, who played for the Yankees last year and is now with the Los Angeles Dodgers. "I'm sure there will be some instant classics on ESPN shortly."

Boone, whose off-season knee injury prompted the Yankees to acquire Rodriguez, will watch the series from afar. Having been in the center of the rivalry, his allegiance is clear.

"I've got to go with the Yankees," he said. "I'm sure it will be back and forth. It should be great."

*The rivalry brings out the best and worst, on the field and off, leaving baseball's biggest spenders fixated on each other above all else.*







# Culpepper's fifth TD dooms Texans

BY JIM VERTUNO  
The Associated Press

HOUSTON — The Minnesota Vikings would have preferred the easy victory they appeared in line for instead of the stunning overtime win they ended up with.

After blowing a late 21-point lead, Daunte Culpepper threw a 50-yard touchdown pass to Marcus Robinson on the second possession of overtime to give the Vikings a 34-28 victory Sunday.

"I'd rather be in a 38-0 blowout where the line can sit and the cheerleaders can come out and take a couple of snaps," defensive lineman Steve Martin said. "But that's not the game we play anymore. It's stress. The fans love it, but we hate it."

The Vikings (3-1) would have hated their plane ride home if the Texans (2-3) had been able to cap a rally in which David Carr and Andre Johnson wiped out Minnesota leads of 21-0 and 28-14 in the second half.

After they breathed a huge sigh of relief after narrowly avoiding a disastrous collapse.

"It's a great win. We have only 16 chances and we're keeping pace with Detroit," Vikings coach Mike Tice said.

Minnesota defensive end Lance Johnstone said: "We knew they would make a run at us. We definitely wanted to close the door on them."

That didn't happen until Culpepper threw his fifth touchdown of the game, the long toss to Robinson 7:05 into overtime.

Culpepper was 36-for-50 passing for 396 yards. He threw a pair of 50-yard TD strikes to Robinson and Randy Moss.

Carr nearly matched him with a career-high 372 yards and three TDs, two to Johnson, who had a 12 catches for 170 yards.

Carr got perhaps the most famous haircut in Houston when he slipped his long locks after the Texans winning their first back-to-back wins the previous two weeks.

He nearly turned it into a real winning streak. His second TD pass to Johnson tied the game with less than two minutes left and sent it into overtime.

"We're never going to give up," Carr bellowed. "Once we got into overtime, we thought we had a chance."

A veteran like Culpepper can end that in a hurry, and his game-winning pass to Robinson silenced the home crowd.



Minnesota Vikings' Nate Burleson, right, makes a touchdown catch behind Houston Texans' Aaron Glenn (31) on Sunday in Houston.

"We didn't break," Culpepper said. "When we got our chance, we took it."

"It was the kind of play Carr would like to see the Texans make."

"We couldn't finish it off," Carr said. "That's something we're going to have to focus on. We've got to get the killer mentality and take it away, kind of like the Vikings did."

While Culpepper was putting up big numbers through the air, fourth-string tailback Mewelde Moore was grinding out the tough yards on the ground.

Moore pounded out 182 yards total, and his tough running between tackles and his ability to

get into the flat for short passes moved the chains in critical situations for the Vikings the entire game.

Moore's 20-yard catch and run moved the ball to midfield before Culpepper hit Robinson with the winning strike.

Moore started only because of injuries and NFL-mandated suspensions to the three players in front of him.

"I love him. He's a gamer," Culpepper said. "He came into training camp not wide-eyed like most rookies do. He came in ready to play."

The Vikings awarded Moore with a game ball for his play.

"When your number is called, you should be ready to perform," Moore said.

# Lions hand struggling Vick, Falcons first loss

The Associated Press

ATLANTA — Michael Vick hasn't figured out the West Coast offense, and he's not sure how long it might take.

This much is clear: The NFL's most exciting player still faces a major learning curve.

Vick turned the ball over three times and the Atlanta Falcons took their first loss of the season, falling 17-10 to the Detroit Lions on Sunday.

"Who knows? Maybe in the 10th or 11th year I'll be comfortable with it," Vick said of his new scheme, which relies on timing and short pass routes. "But for now, I've got to keep working, keep working."

He fumbled three times, losing two of them, and tossed an interception that led to Detroit's go-ahead touchdown.

"I was caught up looking for receivers and got careless with the ball," Vick said. "The bottom line is I should have the ball tucked away."

With a chance to force overtime, Vick completed two passes — including a 24-yarder to Alge Crumpler — and moved the Falcons from their own 20 to the Detroit 21.

But Vick was sacked for a 5-yard loss. Then, as he tried to get away from Jared DeVries, the quarterback's arm hit teammate Todd Weimer and the ball popped free. James Hall fumbled it with 45 seconds left to seal the victory.

"Those are the situations I love



NFL roundup

the most," Vick said. "Everybody's watching. The pressure is on. That's when I feel I'm at my best."

Not this time. The Falcons (4-1) were denied the first 5-0 start in franchise history, along with Jim Mora taking the first loss of his head coaching career. The only other time Atlanta began 4-0 was 1986.

After going three years without a road victory, the Lions (3-1) have won two in a row away from home.

**Jets 16, Bills 14:** Doug Brien kicked a 38-yard field goal with 58 seconds remaining to move the Jets to 4-0 for the second time in franchise history.

Chad Pennington went 31-for-42 for 304 yards with a touchdown and an interception, but his biggest plays came at the end, when the Jets had to rally from a 14-13 deficit. Pennington went 7-for-8 for 51 yards, taking the Jets 60 yards in five minutes to set up the winning score.

Buffalo (4-4) had one final shot from its 48 with 4 seconds left, but Drew Bledsoe was intercepted by Terrell Buckley near the goal line.

**Steelers 34, Browns 23:** At Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger, becoming more comfortable and more productive with each start,

confused Cleveland (2-3) with his running and creativity and the Steelers won their third in a row behind the rookie quarterback. Duce Staley complemented Roethlisberger by running for 117 yards, his third consecutive 100-yard game, and scoring on a 25-yard run following rookie Rich and Colough's 59-yard return of the opening kickoff.

Roethlisberger is only the sixth rookie quarterback to win his first three starts since the NFL merged in 1970.

**Colts 35, Raiders 14:** Peyton Manning completed 16 of 26 passes for 198 yards and three touchdowns, while Edgerrin James ran for 136 yards and a score to lead the Colts to their fourth straight win.

Oakland (2-3) fell to its 12th consecutive road loss.

Manning threw three TDs in the first two quarters, giving him eight in the first half in the Colts' (4-1) two home games.

**Giants 26, Cowboys 10:** Five giants into the season, the visiting Giants already matched last year's win total.

Tiki Barber ran for 122 yards and a touchdown and Steve Christie kicked four field goals to give the Giants (4-1) their fourth win in a row.

New York overcame a slow start by taking advantage of mistakes by Dallas (2-2) and making some breaks for itself.

**Buccaners 20, Saints 17:** The Buccaneers hoped the son of a former Super Bowl quarterback

would help them get their first victory.

They got their wish.

But it was not Chris Simms, son of 1987 Super Bowl MVP Phil Simms, who led the Colts (1-4) to their first victory of the season.

Simms, making his first NFL start, hurt his throwing shoulder in the first quarter and was replaced by Brian Griese, son of Bob Griese, who played in three Super Bowls.

Griese went 16-for-19 for 194 yards and the decisive touchdown.

**Broncos 20, Panthers 17:** Backup Reuben Droughns ran for 193 yards for host Denver (4-1) and Jake Plummer threw a 39-yard pass to Ashley Lelie for the winning points.

Julius Peppers had a 101-yard interception return for Carolina (1-3), the longest interception return in NFL history to not result in a touchdown. The 283-pound lineman caught it 4 yards deep in his end zone. Jake Delhomme ran for a 3-yard touchdown three plays later.

Plummer threw two touchdowns without injury, but his second left-handed TD of the season went to Droughns, a full-back-turned-tailback who started in place of the injured Quentin Griffin. He had a career total of 127 yards rushing entering the game.

The Panthers came into the game without injury, but running back Stephen Davis and lost backup DeShaun Foster in the second quarter with a sprained shoulder.

# Chargers bolt past Jaguars

BY BERNIE WILSON  
The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — If they keep playing this well, the San Diego Chargers might start regaining some of the respect they've been losing for eight straight seasons.

Using a quick-strike offense and a defense that proved it was tough, too, the Chargers beat Jacksonville 34-21 on Sunday.

The Chargers (3-2) won consecutive games in the same season for the first time since October 2002 (the Chargers did win their final games last season and their first game this season). A week earlier, they defeated Tennessee 38-17.

"We beat two pretty good ballclubs," running back LaDainian Tomlinson said. "At the same time, we've still got a long way to go. This team can get a lot better."

Drew Brees, the quarterback the front office didn't want after last season's 4-12 nightmare, threw two touchdown passes to Antonio Gates, the tight end who plays both football, not football, at Kent State.

The Chargers, who have preached fast starts in practice, led 21-0 early in the second quarter.

"Hopefully I will just become who we are... hey, that's the San Diego Chargers, we come out and we score first and we get our team rolling," Brees said. "That's the team who we want to be."

Tomlinson limped off the field late in the third quarter after aggravating a groin injury by getting hurt the rest of the game. That allowed backup Jesse Chatman to rush for 103 yards and a 41-yard score.

Coach Marty Schottenheimer awarded game balls to the offensive linemen, who sprung the backs for 176 yards against a tough defense anchored by masterful Mike Henderson and Marcus Stroud.

"Those guys won the game for us," Tomlinson said.

Tomlinson lined up at quarterback twice on drive in the third quarter. He gained 7 yards after taking the snap in the shotgun formation, then lined up at QB again four plays later and was sacked as he scrambled around.

"He tried his Michael Vick impersonation and it didn't work," tackle Roman Oben said. "He should stick to running the ball."

Said Tomlinson: "I was trying to be like Mike."

The Chargers visit Vick's Falcons next Sunday. The players were always like him because Atlanta took Vick with the top pick in the 2001 draft after obtaining it from San Diego for the fifth pick, which San Diego spent on Tomlinson, along with Tim Dwight and other picks.

Tomlinson gained 56 yards on 19 carries and scored once, and caught four passes for 78 yards.

# Patriots set record with 19th straight win

BY HOWARD ULMAN  
The Associated Press

FOXBORO, Mass. — Bill Belichick let a rare smile crease his face before reminding his New England Patriots what their record winning streak meant.

"He said, 'Congratulations on the streak, great job. Now we've got to think about Seattle,'" safety Rodney Harrison said.

At least their head coach, who downplayed the streak all season, gave the Patriots some time to savor their NFL record 19th straight victory, 24-10 over the winless Miami Dolphins on Sunday, before they start preparing for their next game against the Seahawks.

"It doesn't mean anything right now because we are still in the middle of the season," cornerback Ty Law said in a very quiet locker room. "The fruit will taste a little bit sweeter if we can give ourselves an opportunity to play for another championship."

The Patriots (4-0) won with two touchdown passes by Tom Brady, who had his worst statistical start as a pro, and two turnovers by offensively inept Miami.

The Dolphins trailed 24-10 before reaching the New England 1-yard line on their last series. But quarterback Jay Fiedler hurt his ribs and back on a 12-yard sack and, two plays later, A.J. Feeley suffered a concussion as he threw a fourth-down incompletion and was hit by Roosevelt Colvin.

This Miami team is nothing like the one that no longer shares the record with five other teams. That one went 17-0 in 1972 and won its opener in 1973.

"As a player, you don't think about what they [the Patriots] are doing," Miami defensive end Jason Taylor said. "We've got our own things to worry about."

Miami fell to 0-5, matching its worst record since the expansion Dolphins were 0-5 in 1966. That team won its sixth game.

New England, which can match its fran-



New England Patriots cornerback Randall Gay (21) breaks up a pass intended for Miami Dolphins wide receiver Chris Chambers (84) during the second quarter of Sunday's game.

chise best 5-0 record next Sunday, had shared the 18-game record with Chicago (1933-34; 1941-42), Miami (1972-73), San Francisco (1989-90) and Denver (1997-98).

"They're some great teams and it's nice to be a part of that," linebacker Tedy Bruschi said. "During the season the only milestone that teams want is the Super Bowl."

The Dolphins' problems began before the game when placekicker Olindo Mare left the field on a cart with an injured right calf. They continued until the end when Fiedler and Feeley were hurt.

"We felt good about moving the ball," said Fiedler, who had X-rays and didn't

know if he would play next week, "but you look on the scoreboard and you only see 10 points."

Miami added to its NFL-high 14 turnovers and scored just one touchdown to add to its total of two in the first four games. Only its defense, strong all year, kept the game somewhat competitive.

The Patriots played without injured receivers Deion Branch and Troy Brown, and another, Bethel Johnson, was inactive. New England led 10-0 on Brady's 1-yard pass to Daniel Graham in the first quarter and Adam Vinatieri's 40-yard field goal early in the second.

Still, Brady finished at 7-for-19 for 76 yards and an interception.

"We didn't do the things we set out to do," tackle Matt Light said of the offense. "Defense helped us out a lot."

Miami closed to 10-7 when Fiedler threw a 10-yard pass to Chris Chambers.

Then a strange play — punter Matt Turk's failed run for a first down — gave the Patriots the ball at the Dolphins' 46. Six plays later, Brady hit David Givens for a 5-yard score 36 seconds before halftime.

"He said the snap was a little bit high, but you need to kick the ball," coach Dave Wannstedt said of Turk. "I don't think anyone was rushing him."

Fiedler's fumble on the first series of the third quarter led to Rahib Abdullah's 1-yard touchdown run, making it 24-7.

Rookie kick returner Wes Welker, Mare's replacement who missed his only extra-point kick in college, added a 29-yard field goal that made it 24-10 late in the quarter.

"I played soccer since I was about 4, so that really helped a lot," Welker said.

Miami needed Mare when, facing fourth-and-11 at the New England 21, the Dolphins had to go for a first down and Fiedler threw an incomplete in the end zone with 1:01 left.

If the Patriots beat Seattle, they'll tie the mark of 17 consecutive regular-season victories by the Bears in 1933-34. And if they beat the New York Jets the following Sunday, they'll break that record, too.

But the players weren't thinking about that — not when Belichick actually acknowledged the 19-game record by shaking their hands on the sideline.

"He rarely celebrates anything," Harrison said, "and to lead a team to 19 victories in a row is something to be proud of."



Washington's Marcus Washington tries to bring down Baltimore Ravens running back Jamal Lewis in the first quarter of Sunday night's game.

## Jamal Lewis carries Ravens

BY JOSEPH WHITE  
The Associated Press

LANDOVER, Md. — Playing his last football until November, Jamal Lewis punished would-be tacklers and kept the Baltimore Ravens' offense on the field for nearly the entire fourth quarter.

Lewis ran for 116 yards on 28 carries in a 17-10 victory over the Washington Redskins on Sunday night, an emotionally positive send-off as he prepares to serve a two-game suspension stemming from a guilty plea in a drug case.

"He just took the game on his shoulders," coach Brian Billicek said. "That's why we gave him the game ball, and I wanted to remind him we'll be here when he gets back."

Lewis had 90 clock-eating yards on Baltimore's final three possessions and the Ravens held the ball for all but 2:27 of the final quarter. The performance capped a tumultuous week in which Lewis traveled to Atlanta to plead guilty to using a cell phone to facilitate a drug buy four years ago. He will serve a six-month sentence once the season ends.

"The offensive line said, 'Look, this is the last one before you get the suspension. Let's make the best of it,'" said Lewis, who will miss games against Buffalo and

Philadelphia following an off day next week.

Meanwhile, the Ravens' defense looks more than capable of holding the fort in Lewis' absence. Baltimore (3-2) limited Washington (1-4) to 107 yards, sending Hall of Fame coach Joe Gibbs to his fourth straight defeat, his longest losing streak since he was 0-5 as a rookie head coach in 1981.

The Redskins haven't scored more than 18 points in a game since Gibbs returned from retirement. They didn't have a drive longer than 26 yards against the Ravens. They were practically handed three turnovers — interceptions on consecutive possessions in the second quarter — but could only convert the miscues into a field goal and a touchdown.

"It's a miserable situation," Gibbs said. "And it seems like when you make a mistake, it bounces right into somebody else's hands. I told my team that I think we're a good football team. We'll see. We've got to find a way to make some of those things go our way."

Washington quarterback Mark Brunell completed 13 of 29 passes for just 83 yards and was sacked three times.

"I think Mark was a reflection of all of us," Gibbs said. "We

didn't play well. That's a good defensive team, but we didn't play well."

Appropriately, it was a defensive player who turned the game's tide. Baltimore safety Ed Reed scored a touchdown on a fumble recovery after stripping the ball from Brunell on a safety blitz, stopped Clinton Portis on a third-and-1 on the next series, then threw a block that sprung rookie free agent B.J. Sams for a 78-yard punt return — all in a 70-second span in the third quarter. As a result, the Ravens rallied from a 10-0 halftime deficit to score 14 points without their offense taking the field.

Even Deion Sanders got into the act, getting his first interception since coming out of retirement. The defense's performance served as redemption after it allowed 398 yards and 27 points in a loss Monday night to Kansas City.

For that matter, for Lewis and all the Ravens, the victory was a triumph of determination after a week of distractions.

"It wasn't just me," Lewis said. "This team as a whole knows how to handle adversity and knows how to keep focused and keep it going. We put that behind us. What happened off the field stayed off the field. We just put things together and showed what type of team we are."

# Rams hold off Seahawks

## Bulger's overtime TD pass ends NFC West showdown

BY TIM KORTE  
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Forget the standings and all the pre-season chatter. Matt Hasselbeck and his Seattle teammates know the St. Louis Rams are still the team to beat in the NFC West.

Marc Bulger threw a 52-yard touchdown pass to Shaun McDonald 3 minutes into overtime, leading St. Louis to a thrilling 33-27 victory over the Seattle Seahawks on Sunday.

The Rams (3-2) pulled within a half-game in the division and hung 33 points on a defense that had allowed only 13 in three games. They also silenced forecasters who said the Seahawks (3-1) were ready to take over the NFC West.

"Everybody picked Seattle to run over us," McDonald said. "We might have been the only ones who thought we could win."

The Rams ended Seattle's 10-game home winning streak, with Bulger leading a 17-point rally by throwing two TD passes in the final 5:34 of regulation after the Seahawks seemed to have it in hand.

Jeff Wilkins kicked a 36-yard field goal with 8 seconds left, forcing overtime.

"This team never quits," Bulger said. "We have guys who have been in that situation before, and they know not to quit. They play to the end."

The Seahawks, trying to open 4-0 for the first time, led 24-7 at halftime and 27-10 after Bulger's third interception led to Josh Brown's 34-yard field goal with 8:42 remaining.

That's when Bulger straightened himself out.

He started with an 8-yard TD strike to leaping tight end Brandon Manumaleuna, pulling St. Louis to 27-17 with 5:34 remaining. Then came a 41-yard TD pass to Kevin Curtis to make it 27-24 with 3:30 to play.

"I didn't want to get excited because we still had a

lot of work to do," Bulger said. "We just had to keep chipping away."

On Seattle's ensuing series, Rams end Leonard Little sacked Hasselbeck for a 12-yard loss and forced a fumble that center Robbie Tobeck recovered.

It was huge, though, coming when Hasselbeck had Bobby Engram open over the middle on third-and-5. St. Louis was out of timeouts, and a good pass would have allowed Seattle to run out the clock.

"If we complete the ball, the game's over," coach Mike Holmgren said.

Instead, Brown kicked a 35-yard punt because regular punter Tom Rouen sustained a hamstring strain late. The Rams took over at their own 36 with 1:14 to go, and Bulger — who completed 24 of 42 passes for 325 yards — was ready again.

He found Isaac Bruce for a 26-yard gain to Seattle's 37, then added a 16-yarder to Dane Looker that moved the ball out of bounds at the 18. Wilkins tied it at 27 on the next play.

"Marc did a beautiful job, just beautiful," Rams coach Mike Martz said.

Tough as the loss was to swallow, there was no argument in Seattle's locker room that the better team had won this time — and that the Seahawks learned the importance of protecting a big lead.

"You've got to close it out," Tobeck said. "I always compare it to boxing. When you've got a guy on the ropes, you've got to finish him."

Seattle plays at St. Louis on Nov. 14, a game that seems certain to determine the division champ.

"The Rams are the NFC West champions," said Hasselbeck, who was 20-for-35 for 216 yards passing and two TDs. "They won it last year and they won it the year before. They've earned that respect."

"We haven't earned it yet. We had an opportunity to get that done today, and we didn't."



ST. LOUIS POST-DISPATCH/ART

St. Louis Rams offensive lineman Orlando Pace, left, battles with former Ram and current Seattle Seahawks defensive end Grant Wistrom during Sunday's game in Seattle. The Rams won 33-27 in overtime.

## Sunday's NFL stars:

### Quarterbacks

■ Daunte Culpepper, Vikings, threw five touchdown passes, the last a 50-yarder to Marcus Robinson on Minnesota's second possession in overtime in a 34-27 victory over Houston. Culpepper completed 30 of 50 passes for 396 yards.

■ Tim Rattay, 49ers, threw two touchdown passes and got two 2-point conversions in the final 4:28 of regulation in San Francisco's 31-28 overtime victory over Arizona. He finished 38-of-57 for 417 yards.

■ Marc Bulger, Rams, threw a 52-yard touchdown pass to Shaun McDonald in overtime after leading a 17-point rally with two TD passes in the final 5:34 of regulation in St. Louis' 33-27 victory over Seattle. Bulger finished 24-of-42 passes for 325 yards.

■ Chad Pennington, Jets, was 31-of-42 for 304 yards and a touchdown in New York's 16-14 victory over Buffalo.

■ David Carr, Texans, was 27-of-43 for 372 yards and three TDs in Houston's overtime loss to Minnesota.

### Running backs

■ Reuben Droughbaugh, Broncos, a career backer for 155 yards and caught four passes for 18 yards and a touchdown in Denver's 20-17 victory over Carolina.

■ Tiki Barber, Giants, ran for 122 yards and a touchdown and caught five passes for 76 yards in New York's 26-10 victory over Dallas.

■ Rookie Belewelle Moore, Vikings, finished with 182 total yards in Minnesota's 34-28 overtime victory over Houston.

■ Matt Jones, Colts, rushed for 136 yards and a touchdown in Indianapolis' 35-14 victory over Oakland.

■ Edgerrin James, Panthers, rushed for 136 yards and a touchdown in Indianapolis' 35-14 victory over Oakland.



SAN JOSE MERCURY NEWS/AP

San Francisco 49ers receiver Brandon Lloyd reacts after catching a touchdown pass in the fourth quarter against the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday. The 49ers rallied from 16 down and won 31-28 in overtime.

## 49ers win on a prayer, upend Cardinals in OT

BY GREG BEACHAM  
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — When Larry Fitzgerald's first touchdown catch gave the Arizona Cardinals a 16-point lead with 8:19 left, the few San Francisco fans who weren't booing rushed for the exits.

They missed the only good part of the 49ers' season so far — a thrilling finish with big catches, bad defense and a breakout performance by the man who hopes to be the next name in San Francisco's elite quarterback lineage.

Tim Rattay threw two touchdown passes and got two 2-point conversions in the final minutes of regulation, and Todd Peterson kicked a 32-yard field goal with 11:37 left in an overtime of the 49ers' 31-28 victory over the Arizona Cardinals on Sunday.

The Niners' (1-4) comeback from a 28-12 deficit was improbable on several counts. Rattay's top two receivers were hurting, San Francisco's running game was nonexistent and Arizona's defense hadn't allowed a touchdown in 13 quarters.

Yet Rattay showed a cool he hasn't earned through experience yet, and his young teammates followed his lead. He finished 38-for-57 for a career-high 417 yards, 169 after the third quarter — and afterward, he claimed the outcome was never in doubt to him.

"We're always thinking that we can win the game," Rattay said.

"You're never out of it, you know? It's happened so much,

and this team knows that we have to keep fighting and keep fighting."

Running a no-huddle offense with the flair he learned at run-and-gun Louisiana Tech, Rattay hit tight end Eric Johnson for a score with 4:35 left, then ran for the conversion.

"Tim is amazing in that [offense]," said Johnson, who had another outstanding game with career bests of 13 catches for 162 yards. "He reads the defenses and makes so many great calls. That's really where he shines, where he's at his best."

After Arizona (1-4) punted, the Niners mounted a 72-yard drive.

Brandon Lloyd made a diving 23-yard TD catch with 1:07 left in regulation, then wrestled the ball away from David Macklin for the tying conversion.

Lloyd drew motivation from Arizona rookie defensive tackle Darnell Dockett, who asked the receiver how it will feel to be 0-5 — shortly before San Francisco rallied.

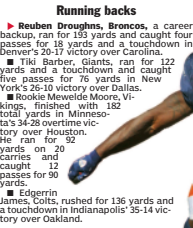
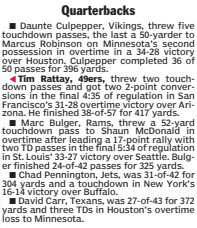
"We didn't win in the pre-season, and we didn't win in our first four games, so it's definitely a relief," Lloyd said. "We bounced back. We hung in there, and our leadership really took over. Tim took over."

San Francisco won the overtime coin toss, and Rattay drove 47 more yards before Peterson easily made his third field goal.

The 49ers lost All-Pro linebacker Julian Peterson for the season with a torn Achilles' tendon. They also lost backup fullback Jasean Isom to the same injury.



AP photos



■ Duce Staley, Steelers, ran for 117 yards — his third consecutive 100-yard game — and scored on a 25-yard run in Pittsburgh's 34-21 victory over Cleveland.

■ Shaun Alexander, Seahawks, ran for 150 yards and a touchdown in Seattle's 33-27 overtime loss to St. Louis.

### Receivers

■ Eric Johnson, 49ers, had career bests of 13 catches and 162 yards and scored a touchdown in San Francisco's 31-28 overtime victory over Arizona.

■ Marcus Robinson, Vikings, caught five passes for 150 yards and two touchdowns, including a 50-yarder in overtime, in Minnesota's 34-28 victory over Houston.

■ Andre Johnson, Texans, had a career-high 12 catches for 170 yards and two touchdowns in Houston's overtime loss to Minnesota.



## SPORTS



Braves rally after Clemens leaves, force decisive game in Atlanta, Page 27



# Pujols puts Cardinals in NLCS

## St. Louis slugger hits tiebreaking three-run homer to beat Dodgers

BY JOHN NADEL  
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The St. Louis Cardinals played like champions in their NL division series against Los Angeles. In defeat, the Dodgers displayed the kind of class and sportsmanship seldom seen in professional sports.

Jeff Suppan settled down after a shaky start to pitch seven strong innings. Albert Pujols hit a tiebreaking three-run homer in the fourth, and the Cardinals beat the Dodgers 6-2 Sunday night to win the best-of-five series 3-1.

The Cardinals will play in their third NL championship series in five years, starting Wednesday night in St. Louis against Houston or Atlanta, which played Game 5 of their division series on Monday night.

The Dodgers are going home for the winter, having failed in their third attempt to

win a postseason series since they beat Oakland in the 1988 World Series.

When it was over, after Jason Istringhausen struck out Alex Cora for the final out, there was no immediate celebration by the Cardinals, and the Dodgers didn't walk back to their clubhouse.

Instead, while the Cardinals were quietly congratulating each other, the Dodgers went out on the field to greet them and shake their hands.

"That's the first time I've seen a team doing that to the other ballpark when they were the losing ballclub, and I think that was very special," Pujols said.

"Everybody just wanted to go out there and just wish them luck," Dodgers star Adrian Beltre said.

While common at the end of NHL playoff series, teams shaking hands on the field after a series is a rarity in baseball.

SEE CARDINALS ON PAGE 27



The St. Louis Cardinals celebrate on the field after beating the Los Angeles Dodgers 6-2 in Game 4 on Sunday night to advance to the National League Championship Series.

## Rams rally, drop Seahawks in OT



Rams receiver Shaun McDonald, left, reaches out to catch the winning touchdown pass in overtime in front of Seahawks defensive back Terrelle Bernard. St. Louis rallied from 17 points behind to tie the game and force overtime. See NFL coverage on Pages 28-31.

SEATTLE TIMES/AP



## Patriots win record 19th straight

Page 30



## Nemeczek sweeps in KC; Busch retains points lead

Page 24

## Troubled ex-NL MVP Caminiti dies of heart attack at age 41

Page 26